

All-out strike call by miners in Yorkshire

Dismissal threat by British Coal

The coal industry was yesterday heading into its most damaging confrontation since the year-long 1984-85 strike after North Yorkshire miners' leaders recommended an all-out strike from Monday.

The move came after British Coal had threatened striking miners in South Yorkshire with dismissal if they did not return to work immediately. In a crucial meeting at Kellingley, the North Yorkshire NUM officials unanimously backed their striking colleagues.

Fit-head branch meetings of the 16,000 miners in the North Yorkshire coalfield, from Barnsley to the new

By Roland Rad

Selby pit complex, are today expected to back the strike call despite British Coal's warning that miners could be sacked if they stay out on strike.

Mr Albert Tuke, the North Yorkshire director of British Coal, appealed to his miners to "come to their senses" and reject the strike call. "It will be

Yorkshire mentality of 'walk first, talk later' will not be tolerated any more. Miners who continue to act in this way could find themselves walking back to a closed pit. The men have got to realize that the industry has to stand by itself and action like this, which costs us millions of pounds, only jeopardizes their jobs."

However, Mr Jack Taylor, Yorkshire NUM president, appealed to management to drop the controversial disciplinary code and hold talks with the NUM. "All that's needed is for people to get round a table. The men are willing to be a party to a negotiated procedure" he said.

Mr Taylor appealed to British Coal not to treat his men with "contempt" or the industry would continue to "go backwards when it could go forward". He added: "Unfortunately at last week's conference it was realized that sooner or later something was going to happen. The miners want to be part of this industry — they are the industry — but they are not going to have this forced on them."

Mr Taylor was making his first comment in more than 48 hours when he visited an appeal tribunal for the sacked branch secretary at Stillingfleet, Mr Ted Scott.

No decision about Mr Scott's future will be made until next week by the chairman, but miners are angry about his dismissal which they say took place under the new disciplinary code.

British Coal says that Mr Scott was dismissed for industrial misconduct after receiving two clear previous written warnings. Union officials have said that if his appeal failed miners would strike until he was reinstated. British Coal have seven days on which to consider the evidence put forward at the appeal hearing.

The manager of the colliery, Mr Tony Lawson, said: "Frickley cannot afford action of this kind. I would be failing in my duty if I allowed the stoppage to continue without making it clear that the strike action is a serious breach of your contract of employment that will lead to disciplinary action and this may include dismissal."

It was not clear last night if the warning of dismissal was also directed at 13,000 miners who have been prevented from going to work by flying pickets. But a spokesman from British Coal said the warning, which was issued with the authority of Sir Robert Haslam, the British Coal chairman, should be decided by every miner on strike since "not turning up to work whether it is because you are on strike or you have been picketed out, it is still a breach of contract".

The spokesman further warned the miners that British Coal was determined to "lay down a marker over the strike action". He added: "The

man of the colliery, Sir John Donaldson, said yesterday it was for the courts and not the newspapers to decide where the public interest lay when it came to publishing confidential information.

He was giving his full reasons in the Court of Appeal for overturning the High Court ruling which cleared three newspapers of charges of contempt of court for publishing extracts from *Spycatcher*, the memoirs of the former MI5 member, Mr Peter Wright, when an order preventing publication was already in force against *The Guardian* and *The Observer*.

Sir John, sitting with Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Balcombe, said the contempt charges brought by the Attorney General against *The Independent*, *The London Daily News* and *The London Evening Standard* must now go back to the High Court for hearing.

He refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords but left the costs to be decided by the judge who hears the case.

Sir John said that confidential information was irretrievably damaged by every publication "and the more widespread the publication, the greater the damage".

The public interest in ensuring the disputes were resolved

justly might require a different balance at different stages. But pending a full trial the balance would normally be in favour of preserving confidentiality.

Sir John added: "It is for the courts, and not for either of the opposing parties to decide where in the public interest that balance lies."

Third parties who know that court orders had been made to protect confidentiality "commit a serious offence against justice itself if they take action which will damage or destroy the confidentiality which the court is seeking to protect and so render the due process of law ineffectual".

The conduct of the three newspapers could constitute a criminal contempt, but it was impossible to say until they had been given an opportunity to be heard. Law report, page 39.

Business Day, South Africa's main daily financial journal, did not say over what period the killings had occurred, but alleged that many of the assassinations were the work of "hit men" suspected of acting as agents for the Pretoria Government.

The newspaper alleged that

shootings of suspected ANC members were "taking place almost daily countrywide" and were part of a new undercover campaign against the ANC.

Instead of the previous high-profile commando raids on neighbouring countries sheltering ANC personnel, often clumsily executed and attracting adverse publicity, the new strategy was to hire anonymous assassins who "picked off ANC targets at will", the paper said.

In Swaziland, an important infiltration route for the ANC, 11 top members of the

organizations' armed wing, *Umkhonto we Sizwe* (Spear of the Nation), have been killed this year. The two latest killings there — possibly timed to coincide with the talks in Senegal between the ANC and a white South African delegation — were on July 9, Mr Cassius Make, an executive member of the ANC, and Mr Paul Dikeledi, were gunned down in broad daylight by three white men in a South African-registered car.

Two black policemen and a suspected ANC guerrilla were killed on Thursday in a shoot-out in Ciskei.

The decision was taken after emergency discussions between M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, and M Jean-Bernard Raimond, the Foreign Minister, who was called back from an official visit to the Ivory Coast, and President Mitterrand, who apparently endorsed the move despite the obvious dangers it presents for both the French nationals in Iran and the French hostages being held by pro-Iranian groups in Beirut.

The Hezbollah, the Beirut-based pro-Iranian Muslim extremist group which is believed to be holding at least four of the five hostages, had already issued a statement on Thursday warning France that its current policies toward Iran would be "prejudicial to French interests throughout the Islamic world".

Before the announcement of the diplomatic break, the Iranians imposed their own blockade on the French Embassy in Tehran, preventing all but the *charge d'affaires* from leaving or entering the building.

● This is only the fourth time since the war that France, which prides itself on always trying to keep dialogue open, has taken such a radical step against a foreign country, and that it was taken to pre-empt a similar move threatened by Iran (Diana Geddes writes from Paris).

Prime Minister lauds Reagan as great leader



Mrs Thatcher with Mr George Bush, the US Vice President, in Washington yesterday.

Thatcher and US threaten Gulf arms ban

From Philip Webster, New York

America and Britain agreed yesterday that an arms embargo should be imposed on Iran and Iraq if they ignore the United Nations call for a ceasefire.

After two hours of talks at the White House President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher agreed that the time had come for a new effort to end the war.

The two leaders agreed that the United Nations Secretary General, Mr Pérez de Cuellar, should personally undertake a peace mission to achieve that end.

Mr Reagan — praised earlier by Mrs Thatcher as a great leader — said: "If either or both of the warring parties refuse the UN call for a cessation of arms embargo should be brought to bear on those who reject this chance to end a bloody and senseless conflict."

The two leaders moved closer to agreeing an international peace conference on the Middle East conflict. America has so far been reluctant to commit itself because of divisions in the Israel Government about the desirability of such a conference and its own reluctance to see the Soviet Union involved.

Mrs Thatcher said in a statement afterwards that she and the President had seen an opportunity to take a major step forward in the peace process and had committed themselves to work for it.

She said that they had explored how an international conference might contribute to bringing about such negotiations, although she made clear that it would not have

the right to impose solutions or veto an agreement reached by the parties.

Mrs Thatcher had earlier made an unprecedented appeal to the American people to drop their obsession with the Iranagate scandal and to prevent it undermining President Reagan's leadership of the Western world.

In a series of nationwide television interviews before her talks with Mr Reagan at the White House, the Prime Minister tried to boost her domestic standing by paying the most fulsome tributes to his personal qualities and leadership.

She denied that his international authority was being weakened by the Iran-Contra affair or that he had become a lame duck president. And she warned America not to be deflected from exercising leadership on the big world stage.

She spoke of Mr Reagan as a great leader, and said that she trusted him absolutely. It was a support operation which astonished some American observers but it reflected Mrs Thatcher's anxieties that progress towards an East-West arms deal and a Middle East peace settlement should not be hindered in the last 18 months of Mr Reagan's presidency.

Mr Reagan repaid the compliments, saying: "It is no secret that I personally admire the Prime Minister and that we share a common faith in freedom and enterprise. She is a strong and principled leader in the international arena."

Continued on page 22, col 6

BAA share fraud suspected

By Ray Heath

Hundreds of suspected cases of illegal multiple applications have been uncovered by accountants policing the privatization of BAA.

Price Waterhouse, which is using a sophisticated computer programme to vet the names of applicants, has found 40 or 50 possible rings of shares who have attempted to increase the number of shares they are allotted in the heavily over-subscribed issue by putting in more than one form.

At least one case involving the use of more than 400 names has been uncovered.

A spokesman for Price Waterhouse gave a warning that names of those people whom the computer could prove had made multiple share applications would be passed on to the Fraud Squad.

The number of applications for the BAA issue will be announced today by Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Transport. He will also announce the basis on which they will be allocated.

The heavy demand will mean investors for the fixed-price issue will have their applications scaled down. A ballot is also possible.

The basis of allocation for the tender issue will not be revealed until next Tuesday.

The premium over the full issue price of 245p remained steady at 45p on the unofficial grey market in BAA shares.

Airlines demand monopoly inquiry on B-Cal merger

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Several independent airlines decided yesterday to demand formally that the proposed merger between British Airways and British Caledonian be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Executives of the airlines, understood to include British Air, Monarch, British Midland, Orion, Air UK, Air Europe and British Island Airways, decided at a breakfast meeting to press for a reference to the commission.

However at least one airline, Dax Air, is thought to be undecided.

There is some sympathy amongst independent operators with British Airways' argument that the two companies need to merge in order to compete with the biggest United States airlines.

However there is widespread concern about the impact on short-haul and European routes, and on operations from Gatwick and Heathrow airports.

Services from the two airports have until now been seen as being in competition. But if B-Cal becomes part of British Airways it would mean that a single airline would dominate both airports.

Mr Michael Bishop, chairman of British Midland Airways, which operates services out of Heathrow, said that the merger should proceed on the basis of conditional approval by the commission requiring British Airways to make concessions on short-haul and European routes in the interest of competition.

Mr Mike Kay, commercial director of British Air Ferries, said he assumed that British Airways would relinquish any parallel routes from Heathrow and Gatwick. "We will be applying for the Jersey, Paris, Manchester and Scottish routes", he said.

However B-Cal said that there was no case for other airlines to seek revocation of its European route licences since any such action by the Civil Aviation Authority must be on the basis of improper or inadequate services. Both British Airways and B-Cal intended to maintain existing operations out of Heathrow and Gatwick.

The CAA is likely to make its views known in its annual report next Thursday.

Eurocity Express, which is in competition with Brymon Airways, of Plymouth, to operate services from the new airport at London's Docklands from next October, announced yesterday that it had reached agreement with Sabena, the Belgian national airline, to co-operate on the Docklands-Brussels route.

Hit men 'sent to hunt ANC'

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

As many as 500 members of the outlawed African National Congress have been killed inside and outside South Africa in a "sustained blitz" against the black nationalist guerrilla organization, a leading newspaper here has claimed.

Business Day, South Africa's main daily financial journal, did not say over what period the killings had occurred, but alleged that many of the assassinations were the work of "hit men" suspected of acting as agents for the Pretoria Government.

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shootings of suspected ANC members were "taking place almost daily countrywide" and were part of a new undercover campaign against the ANC.

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France severs relations with Iran as crisis peaks

By Our Foreign Staff

The Franco-Iranian crisis came to a head yesterday when France severed diplomatic relations with Iran after taking the extraordinary step of preventing a group of 13 Iranians, including three diplomats, from leaving the country as they tried to cross the border into Switzerland.

The Iranians were stopped at the small Saint-Louis frontier post in the Haut-Rhin at 3.30 am. They were escorted in their cars, bearing diplomatic licence plates, back to their homes in the Paris suburbs as the French reinforced their ring of steel round the Iranian Embassy.

An iron grille was leaned against the entrance, and about 100 extra riot police, armed with automatic pistols

and bullet-proof vests, blocked all surrounding access roads and floodlighting the building to prevent anyone entering or leaving.

France has been maintaining a 24-hour guard there in an effort to catch Mr Wahid Gerdji, holed up for the past three weeks. He is wanted for questioning about his suspected involvement in last year's bombing campaign in Paris which killed 13 people and injured more than 200.

France has repeatedly made it clear over the past two weeks that there was no question of letting Mr Gerdji, who does not have diplomatic immunity, go free. The son of Ayatollah Khomeini's former doctor in France, he is suspected of being the head of the Iranian secret service in France.

Guinness man must repay £5m

A High Court judge yesterday ordered Mr Thomas Ward, a former director of Guinness, to repay £5.2 million paid to him out of the company's funds under a secret agreement not disclosed to the Guinness board.

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, also ordered him to pay interest of almost £700,000, as well as Guinness's legal costs.

Last night Mr Ward's solicitors said he would appeal. But they added that in the meantime Mr Ward would be handing over \$2 million (£1.24 million) cash to Guinness on Monday, as well as transferring his entitlement to a further \$3.1 million of assets to the company.

In its efforts to recover the money, Guinness has sued Mr Ward and Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chairman, through the Jersey courts, and obtained asset-freezing orders against both men in the High Court.

Sir Nicolas ruled that Mr Ward had no arguable defence, since the agreement to pay him £5.2 million had not been disclosed to the Guinness board.

Details, page 23

US challenge

Paul Azinger of the US took the lead in the second round of the Open Championship at Muirfield. Page 44

Exam passes

Degrees announced by the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and further Oxford class lists are published today. Page 39

Portfolio Gold

● £12,000 can be won in today's Times Portfolio Gold competition — the £8,000 weekly prize and £4,000 daily prize. Portfolio list, page 27; weekly check, page 36. ● Four readers shared yesterday's prize, which was doubled to £8,000. Details, page 3.

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PERSONAL FINANCIAL GUIDANCE TT11

NEWS SUMMARY

Hepatitis claims 25 BBC victims

An outbreak of hepatitis A has claimed 25 confirmed victims, including six from *The Archers*, the BBC radio series, at Broadcasting House in central London.

Some victims are said to be "quite ill", but an inquiry by the Environmental Health Department says the source has been traced.

Four actors and two senior producers from *The Archers* were the first to go down with the disease after attending a reception. A gathering of BBC regional news staff was held later which appears to have claimed most of the victims.

A BBC spokesman said it was hoped the problem was over.

The culprit appears to be a carrier either among the BBC's own catering staff, or one from outside caterers.

Sculpture 'a joke'

A 30ft scaffold tower with a black and white flag on top, commissioned by the new Tate Gallery, Liverpool, for £20,000, was described yesterday as a "sick joke".

The work, "Floating Square", by Daniel Buren, the French sculptor, rests on a floating platform at the big Albert Dock redevelopment.

Miss Rosemary Cooper, a Liberal councillor, who made the remark, said: "If it wasn't said it would be funny. Liverpool needs this so-called sculpture like it needs a hole in the head."

Father's neglect

A father was found guilty of two neglect charges yesterday after his two children were killed by a hair drier which fell into their bath while he was out drinking.

Cardiff Crown Court was told that Michael Burcher, aged 39, found his son, Ben, aged 10 and the boy's half-sister, Aimee Jane Evans, aged four, dead in the bath.

Burcher, of Fair Oak Road, Roath, Cardiff, who denied the charges, was remanded in custody for sentence.

Two shot in Belfast

Two young Roman Catholic men were seriously wounded yesterday in separate shootings in west and east Belfast. The outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters telephoned the BBC in Belfast to claim responsibility for the first shooting, in which a youth aged 18 was hit at his home at Roden Square, west Belfast.

In the other shooting, a man aged 27 was the victim of a shotgun attack at work in the Beersbridge Road area of east Belfast.

Doctor fined

Dr Jennifer Colman-Archer, who has been struck off by the General Medical Council for abusing patients and colleagues, was fined £75 yesterday for assaulting a court bailiff.

Colman-Archer, aged 43, of Sandy Lane, Dereham, Norfolk, hit Mr Philip Plaislow on the cheek and lip when he called at her home to inform her that her offer of £5 a month to pay off her debts was unacceptable, Norwich County Court was told.

Mr Claudius Algar, for the doctor, said she had been under great pressure.



Guardsman guilty

A Coldstream Guardsman who raped two women after giving them a tour of Buckingham Palace was jailed for eight years yesterday.

During the trial of Mark Wright, aged 21, of Wellington Barracks, a clairvoyant told the jury he had predicted both rapes and warned one of the victims a week before she was attacked. Wright denied both rapes, claiming the women consented to sexual intercourse.

Oxford sets out to gain from research

By Michael Dynes

Oxford University is to launch its own company in an attempt to retain some of the proceeds from research by scientists in its laboratories.

The company, called Oxford University Research and Development (Ourad), will register patents and license potential money-making ideas.

Mrs Jane Clarke, the university industrial liaison officer, said yesterday that Oxford had been looking at establishing its own company since the termination two years ago of the British Technology Group's monopoly on the rights to inventions by British universities.

A committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Patrick Neill, the university vice-chancellor, said that the company would give increased financial incentives to scientific researchers and provide

an additional source of funding for university research. Profits will be divided between the researchers and their departments, according to a formula worked out by the participants in each project.

Mrs Clarke said that the university spent £27 million a year on scientific research, much of which could have commercial applications.

The company, the first of its kind in Britain, reflects the university's determination to maintain its reputation as a centre of research excellence by securing new sources of funding.

The company, which will be formally announced when a managing director is appointed in the autumn, will also act as an advice agency for individual Oxford scientists contemplating the launch of their own companies.

Angry miners are 'ready to relive' 1984 strike

By Peter Davenport

In the old, red brick Miners' Institute in the main street of South Kirkby yesterday, the men who have brought British Coal to the brink of its most serious industrial dispute since the year-long strike in 1984 were in an uncompromising mood.

The morning post had brought a letter to each of the 900 strikers at the local Frickley colliery with the clear warning that they all face dismissal for their action.

But if British Coal had hoped it would force them to return to work it appeared to have miscalculated. The letter left the men feeling bitter and angry.

Among the group sheltering from the rain in the institute was one of the six miners

whose suspension started the dispute that has closed half of the Yorkshire coalfield and threatens to shut the rest by Monday.

"We all made sacrifices in the 1984 strike which many of us are still paying for. But if anybody thinks we haven't got the guts to go through it all again they would be wrong. British Coal seem to think they can just push us around but enough is enough. If we have to stay out another year to win this we can and we will", he said.

It was depressing talk for British Coal which has been relying on a dispute-free run to rebuild the industry after the last strike.

The morning's letter, from the colliery manager, Mr Tony Lawson, set out his side of the argument, but the last two

paragraphs angered the miners. They said:

"The plain fact we all have to face is that Frickley colliery cannot afford losses of this kind. I would be failing in my duty if I allowed the stoppage to continue without making it clear to you that strike action is a serious breach of your contract of employment; that it will lead to disciplinary action and this may include dismissal."

"I do not see this as part of any move towards 'jackboot' management, but because in today's world none of us can expect to continue to be employed on the basis that we may walk out when something happens that does not please us."

Copies of the letter were also sent to all 16,000 men at the South Yorkshire pits

which have been closed by the dispute.

The rapid spread of the dispute has taken British Coal officials by surprise.

The North Yorkshire area NUM panel has recommended that the 17,500 men at the 16 pits, including the showpiece Selby complex, should come out in support of South Yorkshire on Monday morning.

The union branches are meeting over the weekend, but even British Coal spokesmen yesterday said they expected the coalfield to be at a virtual standstill at the beginning of next week, although they insisted that some NUM men had gone into work at several South Yorkshire pits yesterday.

Senior management were yesterday anxiously trying to

counter the spread of the strike. Mr Albert Tuke, the area director for North Yorkshire, was writing to all the miners in his area enclosing a copy of the disputed code of conduct so they can read it and make up their own minds.

A special edition of more than 100,000 copies of the industry's newspaper *Coal News* was also being rush printed.

Yesterday Mr Tuke pulled no punches in describing the effect that a total strike will have on the industry in Yorkshire.

"It will be disastrous. We are fighting for the survival of the coal industry in the face of other forms of competition. The loss of Yorkshire coal is not going to enhance the progress of the coal industry or the miners."

He said it was "in-

comprehensible" that there could be a major dispute over the code of conduct. He was told that senior NUM officials had described it as "draconian".

"The NUM don't understand what draconian means. It goes back to ancient Greece and the laws of Draco which were supposed to have been very severe."

"It seems that anything British Coal wish to introduce is opposed by the union. I can't think of the last time they agreed to anything."

The NUM decided earlier this week to hold a national ballot on possible industrial action to oppose the controversial disciplinary code introduced by British Coal in March. The most likely action is expected to be an overtime ban.

A confident Owen takes on the role of peacemaker

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, yesterday confidently predicted a victory for his side in the party's ballot on whether to merge with the Liberals, due to be concluded on August 5.

But in a clear effort at damage limitation in the increasingly bitter internal dispute, he also emphasized that whichever way the ballot went he would still want a close working partnership with the Liberals.

"There is no way we are going to bust or smash the existing working partnership of Social Democrats and Liberals up and down the country", he said.

He accused his opponents of taking an all-or-nothing attitude which implied that if they did not get the merger they wanted then the result would be a bust-up between the parties. That is the counter point to the kind of worries

that his opponents have been voicing about Dr Owen.

The SDP leader has made it plain that he would play no part in a merged party but would be content to lead a small parliamentary group of loyal MPs. This - and his sharp criticism of the Liberals on policy issues - had led to fears within the Alliance that in his determination to maintain a distinctive SDP voice he would seek, for example, to put up candidates at by-elections against a Liberal or merged Alliance candidate, so emphasizing continuing divisiveness.

But Dr Owen last night made it clear in a statement issued in Plymouth that he considered talk of "bust-up" or separation as the "old politics" which the SDP had come into existence to contest. "It is simply not in our interest for Social Democrats

or for Liberals to fight each other", he said.

Dr Owen also said that if his side won the ballot then they would keep open the option of formalizing a closer working relationship, short of merger, with the Liberals "sometime in the future".

Earlier, he said it was clear that Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and the other members of the SDP's original Gang of Four - Mr Roy Jenkins, Mrs Shirley Williams and Mr Bill Rodgers - had ruled out the possibility of the two parties working closer together short of merger, the first option on the ballot paper.

He wished they had not done so because in rejecting the other option they were doing something far more dangerous. "They predict or threaten - depending on how one wishes to interpret their words - a bust-up or separation between Social Democrats and Liberals. That is a watershed which we as Social Democrats will not cross."

Dr Owen said that parties worked together all over Europe. "We have absolutely no intention whatever of breaking up a political partnership that has brought us both success in many parts of the country."

The "tough but tender" SDP leader showed a little more of the second quality than has been evident so far in the SDP ballot campaign by agreeing that there were people in the party who were sincere in their belief in a merger and promising that their views would be listened to with respect.

"If they decide to join the Liberal Party they will still be working with us in the future", he said.

Tories warned off Scottish assembly

Government concern at post-election pressure for a Scottish assembly emerged yesterday in a strong attack on the idea from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary (Our Political Editor writes).

Admitting that devolutionist banners had been raised again and that some Conservatives seemed to have been "beguiled by the notion" of a Scottish assembly, Sir Geoffrey urged Scottish Tories to "keep their nerve".

After an election in which the Conservatives lost 11 of their 21 seats in Scotland, the Foreign Secretary said in a

speech in Drymen: "We have obviously to sell our programme better."

"We must show that we have heard what people are saying in their votes. But we must not cancel or change the direction of our policies."

He said many Scots may feel that they had not yet shared in Britain's economic recovery.

"We must recognize and understand that concern and we must respond - but not, surely, with something so utterly irrelevant to Scotland's needs as a tax-raising assembly in Edinburgh."

New minister backs role for nuclear power

By Robin Oakley

The Government's faith in nuclear power was underlined yesterday by Mr Michael Spicer, one of the new ministerial team at the Department of Energy.

In his first public speech in his new role as the responsible minister, Mr Spicer told a Confederation of British Industry conference that the Central Electricity Generating Board had estimated that without the existing nuclear power stations, electricity prices would have had to rise by 15 per cent last year.

In Scotland, electricity generated by means other than nuclear power was 25 per cent more expensive to produce.

Mr Spicer said that while there had been 344 deaths in the coal industry over the past decade, there had been just ten fatalities in the nuclear industry, not one caused by radiation.

Teachers seek tax relief on expenses

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Teachers are to seek tax relief for marking school books and preparing reports and lessons in their own homes.

The teaching unions claim that the new contracts imposed on them by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, give them new grounds for claiming the cost of heating, lighting, books, word processors and any other equipment needed for work after school hours.

Mr Hugh Pierce, senior solicitor for the National Union of Teachers, said yesterday that the contracts, under the Teachers' Pay and Conditions Act, state that teachers must work for additional hours beyond a basic 1,265 hours a year in discharging their professional duties.

Previous approaches to the Department of Inland Rev-

enue were rejected on the grounds that claimable expenses had to be "necessarily incurred in the performance of employment duty".

But without written contracts spelling out their duties, the teachers could not claim that working at home was necessary.

The NUT estimates that a secondary school teacher works for an average of 30 hours a week, including 2.5 hours of actual teaching. Teachers of the new GCSE 16-plus examination have complained about a big increase in workload because of the high proportion of continuous assessment.

Higher education lecturers can already make limited claims for home expenses. A-level teachers can claim for books and other items.



The Duchess of York in red silk at a dinner at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Canada, on Thursday night.

Union warning on strike-free pacts

By Roland Radd

Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the EETPU, the electricians' union, defended yesterday his union's policy of signing strike-free contracts.

"The deals we sign are decided by our members and will not be decided by the Transport and General Workers or the TUC", Mr Hammond said.

The TGWU will propose a motion at the TUC conference in Blackpool next September calling for a special review board to report on what it calls the "particularly divisive technique" of single-union, no-strike pacts.

Mr Hammond warned earlier this week that the union would rather leave the TUC than change its policy for the benefit of other unions. "I am not afraid of being pushed out if the terms to stay in are unacceptable", he said.

The TGWU denied yesterday that its motion was provocative. "We are not saying anyone who signs no-strike deals should get thrown out of the TUC because we want the electricians' union to remain in the TUC", a spokesman said.

"We are trying to build consensus and unity over this issue and the EETPU would do well to read the whole of

our motion and not over-react to the parts calling for an end to no-strike deals."

"There is a genuine concern about agreements which result in unions cutting each other's throats in order to get recognition. We are asking for a review body to draw up proper procedures on how unions should secure recognition without no-strike deals."

The TGWU is angry that most unions are unable to compete for company recognition with a union which is offering a strike-free clause. It regards the move as provocative and aimed at undermining the recruiting methods of the trade union movement.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the TGWU, believes that his proposal "can open the way for a united approach within the movement towards a new unionism, which responds to new trends without retreating before them."

The motion is likely to be resisted also by the Amalgamated Engineering Union, which has signed a number of pendulum arbitration agreements.

However, it will almost certainly be passed at the TUC conference.

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Agriculture minister plans to tour different regions MacGregor pledges support for family farms

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, yesterday pledged his support for the family farm, which he described as vital both for the environment and for the economic health of rural communities.

Mr MacGregor, who succeeded Mr Michael Jopling after last month's election, added that, contrary to public assumptions, the vast majority of farmers had never been rich.

"Most family farmers have never had anything other than modest incomes", he pointed out. "They may have large capital assets, but that is something quite different."

"One of the things I want to do while I am in office is to get

across to the public some of the realities of farming."

That commitment will certainly be welcomed by the farming community who have greeted their new minister with high expectations, coupled with some uneasiness about whether a former Chief Secretary to the Treasury might be a bit too zealous in looking for ways to cut government support.

But Mr MacGregor made it clear that support for small farmers would not extend to the "almost philosophical commitment" of West German governments to keeping people on the land at all costs.

"We must not do anything that will reduce the efficiency of British farming", he said.

"I am fully committed to

keeping the family farm, but I don't think that we should automatically follow the German pattern. After all, 40 per cent of German farmers are part-time."

Special concessions, such as low interest loans for farmers, as operated in some other European countries, would be very difficult, he said.

During his time at the Department of Industry and at the Treasury, he had received similar requests from small businessmen, retailers and other groups.

But any such concessions involved a subsidy, which was a questionable use of taxpayers' money, and it was difficult to ensure that the loans would be applied for the purposes for which they were granted.

Mr MacGregor intends to spend much of the parliamentary recess touring the main farming regions of Britain, starting in the West Country next week.

The need to take substantial areas of farmland, possibly as much as 700,000 hectares (1,750,000 acres) out of production during the next few years carried considerable implications, he pointed out.

Lowland producers, forced out of cereal growing could be expected to switch to livestock, with a consequent knock-on effect on hill farmers, which was why he backed the continuation of EEC financial support for upland farming.

He conceded that much of the acclaim with which his appointment had been greeted was a result of the unpopular-

ity of his predecessor, who received an almost unanimous vote of no confidence at the National Farmers' Union Annual Meeting last February.

But he defended Mr Jopling's record. "Michael has been greatly under-estimated", he said.

"He really did draw the short straw in coming in at a time when big changes had to be made."

"I think he achieved a changed consensus, and the lead he gave to the EEC Council of Ministers about the need for reforms was very considerable."

"One of my advantages in taking office now is that everyone is very much more aware of the need to reduce surpluses. I am very excited about the job."

The Jew
Wife
by P
husba

Loans rise
with boom
in prices

Backing

The Jeffrey Archer libel case Wife denies claim by prostitute on husband's 'spots'

By Paul Valley

Mrs Mary Archer was called back to the witness box in the High Court yesterday to give evidence in her husband Jeffrey's libel case about the condition of the skin on his back.

Mr Archer, the former deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, is suing *The Star* over a claim that he slept with a prostitute, Miss Monica Coghlan.

Earlier Miss Coghlan had said in evidence that when she was in bed with the man she recognized as Mr Archer, she noticed the skin on his back was rough and spotty.

Yesterday Mr Archer's counsel, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, asked Mrs Archer to describe the condition of Mr Archer's back.

Mrs Archer said: "Jeffrey has an excellent skin, sir. He has no spots or blemishes anywhere."

Mrs Archer said that in September last year, when Mr Archer is alleged to have seen Miss Coghlan, the family had come back from a fortnight's holiday in the Aegean. Her husband had a lightly tanned back from the sun, and a very white part around his midriff.

Mr Alexander asked her: "Can you say whether or not the difference in colour between those parts of his body exposed to the sun and those where his shorts would have been would have been very noticeable?" Mrs Archer replied: "Very noticeable."

Mr Alexander then said: "He had no spots on his back?" Mrs Archer replied: "No, sir."

Mr Alexander then put the final question in the evidence heard during the 10 days of the trial so far, asking Mrs Archer: "What was the colour of the car you owned then?"



Mrs Archer, who gave evidence about her husband.

"It was a darkish grey, sir," she replied.

The evidence closed without the editor or any member of the *Star* staff saying one word in its defence.

Mr Alexander had to content himself instead with a cross examination of Mr David Montgomery, the former editor of the *News of the World*, which first disclosed that Mr Archer had tried to pay a large sum of money to Miss Coghlan.

Mr Archer's libel suit against that newspaper is apparently not due to be heard until 1989; he chose to sue *The Star* first because it stated more directly that he had a sexual relationship with Miss Coghlan.

Yesterday Mr Alexander reviewed in court *The Star* coverage of the trial, which is to be the subject of a claim for aggravated damages of nine days' of stories, six had been front page splashes about the trial. He asked Mr Montgomery:

Jeffrey has an excellent skin. He has no spots or blemishes anywhere

ery how much a paper like *The Star* would normally have to spend on six front page stories.

But when he attempted to introduce figures about the profits of United Newspapers, which owns *The Star*, the judge, Mr Justice Caulefield, upheld an objection from *The Star's* counsel, Mr Michael Hill, QC.

Mr Alexander proceeded with an attack on the general standards of the *News of the World* which, he said, specialized in scandals about sex and royalty.

Mr Alexander asked Mr Montgomery about the lies and deceptions involved in the paper's methods of investigation, including its briefing Miss Coghlan to lie to Mr Archer in five telephone calls which it initiated and secretly recorded.

At one point his questions became so pointed that the judge intervened to say: "Mr Alexander, ask the questions — try not to rebuke the witness."

For some time Mr Montgomery maintained, as his reporter Mr John Lingers had

claimed the day before, that the original story (which disclosed the pay-off but which did not directly allege that sexual intercourse had taken place) was not written with deliberate ambiguity to avoid the possibility of legal action.

"We wrote what we were 100 per cent sure of, what our journalists had seen," he said.

But then he was questioned on the paper's leading article the same day which had called Mr Archer a "monumental fool" and said: "To err is one thing, to cover up is another, to be caught covering up is the end."

In what way had Mr Archer erred, counsel asked: "You were suggesting that he had erred by sleeping with the prostitute."

Mr Montgomery said: "Yes, indeed. There would be no other reason for paying off the prostitute if he hadn't slept with her. I think that that is the conclusion they (the readers) would draw."

Later three more journalists entered the witness box and repeated statements given to them by Mr Archer at the time the story broke but which contradicted evidence the couple had subsequently given in court.

Mr Norman Luck, of the *Daily Express*, said that on the day the first article was published Mrs Archer had told him that the prostitute had been asking for money from her husband — something the family has since denied.

Mr Tony Dawe, then of the *Daily Express*, testified that Mr Archer had told him that he had been at a function for 50 people, had then seen the Government Chief Whip, Mr John Wakeham, and then had driven home a colleague from Conservative Central Office on the night he was supposed to have been with the prostitute.

Mr Nicholas Constable, of *Today*, said he was told about the same time by Mr Archer that he had been in a meeting on the night in question. Mr Archer's alibi in court was that he was in the Caprice restaurant with publishing contacts.

The case continues on Tuesday with the closing speech by Mr Hill. The court is not sitting on Monday because a juror has to attend a funeral.

Serenade for far-off shores



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, joining the Chamber Choir of Christ's Hospital School, Horsham, when they sang before 300 Church of England missionaries at yesterday's annual garden party at Lambeth Palace (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Medical science crisis

Trust gives £3 million to aid research

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Wellcome Trust is so concerned about the crisis in British science that it is offering £3 million to attract graduates into medical research.

During the next three years the trust will pay for more than 30 outstanding students in the final year of their degree courses to follow on into PhD research projects.

The Wellcome trustees have allowed for a tax-free stipend of £4,000 a year, plus a £600 London allowance, over three years, together with up to

£2,000 a year for fees and research.

This is a higher level than the usual grants, set by the Department of Education and Science at £2,859 with a London allowance of £643.

A trust spokesman said yesterday that the scheme was to encourage the best young scientists to embark upon research.

The trustees believe the low pay and inadequate support for research costs have reduced the number of outstanding PhD graduates.

Welcoming the initiative, the Save British Science

organization said that it demonstrated the pitance on which graduates had to live if they chose to pursue academic research rather than take a starting salary of perhaps £18,000 in the City.

Some research workers at Oxford University are working for nothing and living on supplementary benefits.

Dr John Mulvey, of Oxford's department of nuclear physics and a member of the Save British Science group, said that the careers of many young scientists were cut short or disrupted because science departments could not afford to pay their wages.

Labour's 'unity' behind 62% rise

Three Labour councillors from the London borough of Waltham Forest yesterday explained that party unity lay behind their vote for a 62 per cent rate rise.

They told the High Court that they put allegiance to their party before their personal feelings about what was best for ratepayers.

They had voted for the rise although they individually opposed it.

One councillor, Mr Jo Brind, wearing a pink rose in his lapel, told the court that he regarded the rates system as "a regressive tax against the principles for which the Labour Party stands".

But party unity came first and last March he voted for the unpopular increase, proposed by the Labour group, which led to town hall demonstrations by thousands of ratepayers.

Two other councillors, Mrs Vi Smith and Mr Jeffery Miles, agreed that party unity was paramount and had also reached the same decision.

All three were giving evidence on the fifth day of an application by the Waltham Forest Ratepayers' Action Group for court orders quashing what they described as an "irrationally high" rate.

Mr Miles was asked by Lord Justice Glidewell, sitting with Mr Justice Schiemann, why he thought unity was important.

He said: "Without unity — you may think I am exaggerating — local government would descend into a chaotic situation and detract from effective and strong local government."

The hearing continues on Monday.

Portfolio — Gold — Winner celebrates a double

An accountant who retires in two weeks started celebrating early yesterday when he was named as one of the four winners sharing the £8,000 prize in the Portfolio Gold competition.

Mr Jack Blogg, who works for Freightliners, the container company, will put his winnings towards a holiday in Yugoslavia for himself and his wife, Mary.

Mr William Pawley, aged 78, a reader of *The Times* for 40 years, intends to buy a couple of armchairs with his winnings. He and his wife, Freda, from Penge, south London, have ruled out taking a holiday with their prize because they have six cats and two dogs.

A third winner was Dr Peter Stachura, a reader in modern history at Stirling University. "I have never won anything in my life before, not even a three-penny raffle and so this is grand news", Dr Stachura, of Ashcroft Chilton Road, Bridge of Allan, near Stirling, said.

The fourth winner, Mr Simon Wetton, aged 22, a stockbroker, of Silvertown Road, Fulham, south-west London, intends to put his £2,000 towards the deposit of the house he is buying in the area.

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Damages win for footballer

Peter Beardsley, the footballer, won "substantial" damages yesterday over an article in the *Evening Chronicle*, Newcastle, by its editor, Mr Graeme Stanton.

At the High Court in Newcastle, Mr Stanton and the Newcastle Chronicle and Journal admitted the attack on the former Newcastle United striker had been unwarranted, and withdrew the allegations.

Rare bird shot

A rare peregrine falcon chicken was shot and badly injured in the Wye valley yesterday. The bird was one of four hatched in a nest at Symonds Yat three months ago.

Loans rise with boom in prices

Lending by building societies to home-buyers passed the £3 billion mark last month for the first time this year as the nationwide house price boom continued.

Figures from the Building Societies Association released yesterday show that mortgage advances totalled £3,157 million in June, the highest since October last year.

A further £3,402 million was promised to applicants, the most since last August.

In the wake of the drop in borrowing costs at the beginning of May and in expectation of Mrs Thatcher's third election win, the year-on-year increase in prices rose from 12.9 per cent at the end of April to 14.1 per cent at the end of May, according to the association's figures.

Societies also had a good month on the savings front in June, despite the drain on accounts for the second call on British Gas shareholders.

Net receipts were £556 million in June, which is about average for the year so far.

Today's figures show that £7,412 million was paid into building society accounts last month and £6,856 million was withdrawn.

Beer and tobacco prices set to rise

By Derek Harris

Price rises in most tobacco and beer products were signalled yesterday as breweries brought in increases in the North and higher cigar prices were notified.

It could mean up to 2p on packets of 20 cigarettes and between 2p and 4p on a pint of ale or lager.

Imperial Tobacco, part of Hanson Trust, announced cigar price increases from the middle of next month which will add 2p to 3p to packs of five and six small cigars and 2p each to those of panatella and half corona size.

Other manufacturers are expected to follow suit.

There was increasing trade speculation that cigarette prices will also rise. Usually this happens within weeks of a round of cigar price increases.

It is the first cigar price rise for a year and part of the increases will give higher cash margins to distributors including retailers.

Beer price increases in Scotland, the North-east, North-west and the East Midlands look like the start of the annual price round which usually paces the south of England towards the autumn.

Scottish & Newcastle Brew-

eries has put through increases in Scotland which are adding between 1p and 4p to bar prices.

Whitbread is bringing in wholesale price rises which will be the end of the month put up prices in tenanted public houses in the North-east, Yorkshire and East Midlands. Mostly the increases range between 2p and 4p but in the North-east Stella Artois lager rises by 5p.

In the North-west, the regional brewer, Greenall Whitley, based in Warrington, is raising beer prices by the end of this month in its own managed public houses by 2p a pint.

Mr Stuart Holmes, the veteran anti-smoking campaigner, is taking action next week against Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, to try to force him to stop the BBC broadcasting the Embassy World Snooker Championships and other tobacco sponsored events.

Mr Stephen Byres, director of the Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco (Forest) is urging smokers to boycott the recently-launched Paramount Airways because of its ban on smoking.

Husband jailed for shooting

Terrence Morgan, who twice shot his wife's lover at close range with the world's most powerful handgun, was jailed for six years yesterday.

Bullets from the Magnum .44 passed through Mr Michael Collins' stomach and out the other side of his body, just missing his spine.

But Mr Collins, a helicopter builder, survived and made an almost complete recovery after extensive surgery, Exeter Crown Court was told.

Morgan, aged 36, a firearms dealer, of Priorswood Road, Taunton, admitted the attempted murder of Mr Collins, aged 34, of Goss Park, Street, Somerset.

He was told by Mr Justice Jupp: "There is only one happy issue to come out of the whole thing — Mr Collins is back with his wife and you and your wife are reconciled."

Mr Geoffrey Mercer, for the prosecution, said Morgan and Mr Collins were friends who shared a common interest in firearms. But Morgan's wife, Sylvia, aged 34, and Mr Collins became lovers.

He drove to Mr Collins' parents' home in Bridgwater Road, Taunton, and shot him before giving himself up.

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First early release prisoners will be freed next month

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The first offenders to be granted early release as part of the Government's emergency package to tackle prison overcrowding are expected to be freed in about four weeks.

That is when an order to be laid before Parliament next week is likely to come into effect. It will increase the amount of remission allowed for good behaviour from a third to a half of a prisoner's sentence, and apply to those serving terms of up to 12 months. Young offenders will be included in the move.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said yesterday that about 3,500 prisoners would be released early, but they would not be serious offenders.

"They are people whom the courts have decided are not dangerous criminals and who deserve relatively light punishment. They are going to be on the streets anyway", he said.

The speed with which Mr Hurd intends to act is shown by plans to open Rolleston camp, Wiltshire, in two or three weeks. It will hold 360 inmates under the control of about 60 prison service personnel.

Whether Rolleston will provide enough extra accommodation depends on future shifts in the prison population. Mr Hurd has said he will keep under review the need for more camps and "other additional accommodation".

Figures released yesterday show that a record number of prisoners are now being held in England and Wales. The number rose from 51,029 a week ago to 51,239, an increase of 210. The total includes 50,504 prison inmates, against an official capacity of 41,994, and 735 prisoners held in police cells because there is no room for them in jail.

Mr Hurd yesterday answered criticism from Mr Leon Brittan, his predecessor, over the plans to release prisoners early.

Mr Brittan had said it was "wrong in principle and quite contrary to the rule of law" for convicted criminals to be released early "simply because there is no room".

But Mr Hurd said that there was no question of it being against the rule of law. He said: "We are quite entitled within the law to carry it out".

Recalling that Mr Brittan had himself adjusted parole for less serious offenders while in charge of the Home Office, Mr Hurd said: "I was part of his team then and I fully supported him in that."

"It is quite clear that if we had not taken these steps and there had been an explosion within the prisons, the Government would have been at fault."

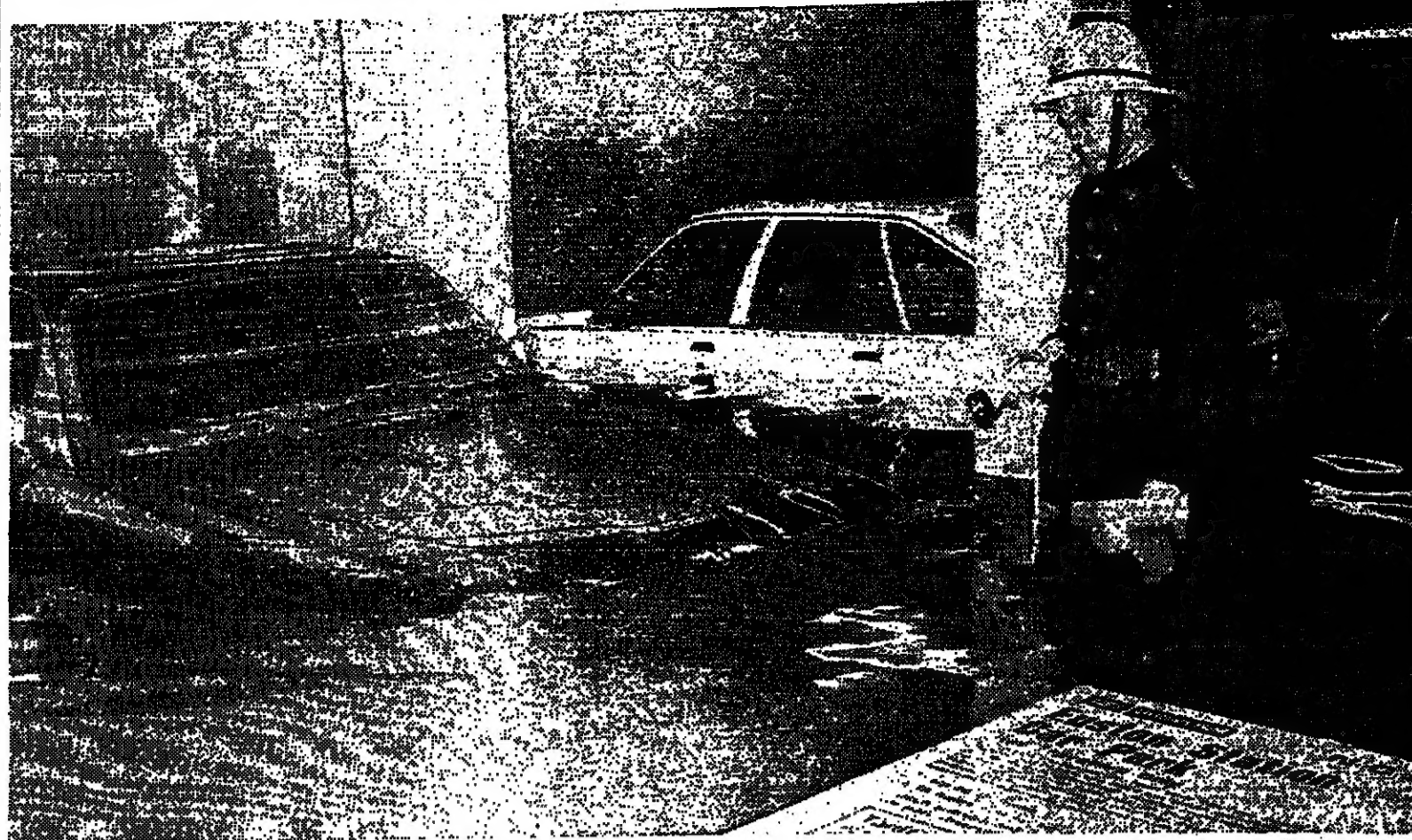
Mr Hurd eventually hopes to inject private enterprise experience more effectively into the prison building programme. At what level and quite how this will happen has yet to be decided.

Sir Brian Cubbon, Permanent Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, and other officials met private contractors before the general election. They have since formed themselves into a loose group and officials await further discussion.

One of the issues is how to fit private enterprise into the existing system. The Home Office initiates the idea of building a prison and gets the money for it from the Treasury, and the Property Services Agency looks after management of prison construction.

It has been claimed in the past that one of the main hold-ups was difficulty in obtaining planning permission, and Mr Hurd is known to believe that it takes far too long to build a new prison.

Car owners seek flood compensation



Station commander Ian Robson, of Paddington fire station, checking cars trapped after a main burst at Euston (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

By Robin Young

A campaign for compensation for about 150 cars flooded in the car park beneath Euston station, north London, when a water main burst on Thursday, is to be led by Mr John Heddle, the Conservative MP.

His own Jaguar was among the cars trapped.

The Thames Water Authority has offered to meet claims as soon as the damage can be fully assessed, although British Rail's management said that all vehicles were parked at the owners' risk, and that claims might be made on the owners' insurance companies.

Normal train services are expected to be restored by Monday, although Euston Underground station is likely still to be closed, Mr Ron Farrow-Smith, divisional operations manager for London Regional Transport, said.

Yesterday the Northern line was

shut between Camden Town and Moorgate and the Victoria line between Victoria and Highbury because of the flood.

Firemen from 40 stations worked through the night and most of yesterday pumping water from car park and Underground tunnels. One pump ran until it was red hot and had to be replaced.

An Underground train was trapped in mid-tunnel for nearly an hour while

firemen worked to stem the flood. A London Regional Transport spokesman said that they had been in continual contact with the driver of the train by radio and were monitoring the situation throughout, although fire brigade officers at the scene claimed that they had not been told there were passengers in the tunnel.

It is estimated that more than 15 million gallons of water escaped from the burst main.

Tensions in cells holding three men

By Andrew Morgan

John Cooper was released from Strangeways prison in Manchester three weeks ago after four years of a seven-year sentence for robbery. He had spent time at four prisons but found Strangeways the worst.

"There were men in there serving up to seven months for non-payment of fines. It was costing the Government about £300 a week to keep them and yet their fines were much lower", Mr Cooper, aged 31, from Oldham, Manchester, said.

"Then there were first offenders for crimes like criminal damage who should never be inside. Burglary should be the lowest custodial crime."

He said: "Releasing offenders will help a bit but the tension will still be there. Under-staffing means Strangeways has not had any television time or 'association' since 1975."

"I shared a cell with two other men, bugged up for 23 hours a day. The inevitable riots broke out on my wing last April during the hot spell."

"Numbers were so high that I was being allowed one shower every 14 to 21 days. We strip-washed for the rest of the time and obviously the smell was dreadful."

Pat Schooley, aged 20, from

Kingston upon Thames, south-west London, left a Rochester youth custody centre on June 30 after serving nearly 12 months for stealing cars.

He was locked up for 20 hours a day and he said several prisoners lost remission for wrapping their excrement in paper and throwing it through the window rather than use the cell bucket.

Mr Schooley also spent time in a Dover centre and believed that too many petty offenders — shoplifters and burglars on a first offence — were serving a custodial sentence.

"Many have good references for community service but the courts turn them down. I think they should examine them more closely", he said.

Martin Wynne, aged 22, who lives in a hostel in Finchley, north London, was 12 months in Wormwood Scrubs. He took part in the recent riots.

"Low staffing meant we could watch television, play pool or table-tennis for only two hours a week", he said.

"People talk of too many people inside but they often forget the other factors: conditions outside — the boredom, the lack of hope. Releasing men into the community won't help that."

BA denies any danger in air miss

British Airways yesterday denied there was a risk of collision between one of its Boeing 747s and an RAF transport plane in a "near miss".

British Airways said the two aircraft had passed within 500 to 600 yards of each other, not 200 yards as some reports claimed.

The airline said its Boeing 747, flying from Heathrow to Los Angeles, was travelling at 500 knots and overtaking the RAF Hercules on Wednesday over Carlisle.

The Civil Aviation Authority confirmed that an investigation had been ordered into the incident but refused to discuss details.

The Ministry of Defence said: "We are aware of a report of a near miss".

The pilot of the British Airways aircraft, flight 283, filed the report. Regulations state that there should be at least 1,000ft above or below an aircraft and five miles on either side.

British Airways said the 747

was at 26,000ft and was climbing to 29,000ft when the pilot saw the Hercules. The incident was not regarded as a serious one.

The airline said: "The pilot did not have to take avoiding action. There was no risk of collision, and in such circumstances it is optional for the pilot to file an air miss report. There was never any danger."

The CAA said there were 45 reported near misses involving public transport aircraft in 1975 compared with 16 last year.

Computer 'hackers' cleared

Two computer hackers who were found guilty of forgery and fined after breaking into the Duke of Edinburgh's secret computer files had their convictions set aside by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, allowing their appeal, said it was the first time that this kind of activity had been made the subject of charges under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act, 1981.

At Southwark Crown Court in April last year, Mr Robert Schifreen, a computer journalist, and Mr Stephen Gold, an accountant, were convicted of contravening the Act by gaining unauthorized access to British Telecom's Prestel computer network.

Mr Schifreen, aged 23, of Edgwarebury Gardens, north London, said to have left messages on the Duke's files, was fined £750. Mr Gold, aged 31, of Watt Lane, Sheffield, was fined £600.

Lord Lane said yesterday that, if it was forgery at all, it was a "very unusual form". He said: "Their object was not so much to gain any profit for themselves as to demonstrate their skills as hackers."

Although their conduct amounted to dishonestly gaining access to the data bank by a trick that was not a criminal offence, "if it is thought desirable to make it so, that is a matter for the legislature."

Armed services and race Forces keep ethnic records

By Sheila Gann, Political Staff

Medical records kept by the Armed Forces include the ethnic origin of servicemen and women, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, disclosed yesterday.

The information was required because certain conditions can be "racially specific" but it was kept strictly confidential, he assured MPs.

Mr Younger sent an example of the servicemen's medical examination reports to the Commons defence select committee after accusations of racial discrimination in the services.

The Prince of Wales has criticized the lack of black guardsmen and said he would like to see more black soldiers taking part in ceremonies.

Mr Younger has strongly

denied any colour bar while admitting no figures were kept. In revised guidance to recruiting stations the Ministry of Defence urged officers to guard against "the more subtle and unconscious varieties of discrimination".

The all-party committee of MPs released an exchange of letters with the Ministry of Defence yesterday but has not yet produced a report on its investigation into ethnic monitoring and the Armed Forces.

Defending the use of information on ethnic origins in medical records, Mr Younger told the MPs: "I am satisfied that none of the services maintains records in order to monitor the ethnic composition of those in their ranks".

The Ministry of Defence

introduced a scheme on April 1 to check the racial make-up of new recruits. It said yesterday recruits had the choice on whether they filled in the box marked "race" on the application form.

Dr John Gilbert, a former Labour defence minister and a committee member, had denounced the form as a fraud because it failed to show whether black and Asians had equal access to elite regimental units or enjoyed equal promotion prospects.

The evidence also disclosed the religious make-up of Army and RAF ranks. Out of 160,701 Army servicemen, 222 belong to non-Christian denominations. *Commons Defence Committee: Ethnic Monitoring and the Armed Forces — minutes of evidence (Stationery Office, £5.20).*

Man on £2m cheque fraud charge

An Israeli arrested in London in connection with an alleged £2 million cheque fraud on a bank in North Carolina said yesterday he would fight extradition to America.

Shabtai Kalmanowitch, aged 39, the diplomatic representative in Israel for the South African black homeland of Bophuthatswana, is the head of an international group dealing in gold.

He was arrested on May 22

and is shortly to be the subject of extradition proceedings to America over alleged cheque frauds on the National Bank of North Carolina.

He said outside Bow Street Magistrates' Court in central London: "It has been claimed that my arrest could seriously harm the gold market in Sierra Leone, but this is not the case."

"My company, List, is exporting the same amount of gold as before."

Mr Kalmanowitch, of Palace Street, Victoria, central London, had earlier yesterday been remanded on £500,000 bail to reappear on July 21.

He was arrested with a colleague, Vladimir Davidson, who has dual British and Israeli nationality.

Mr Davidson, aged 44, who also faces extradition on the same charge, was remanded in custody until the same date.

10 years for coma attack

A youth aged 17 collapsed in the dock yesterday after he was sentenced to 10 years youth custody for a robbery that left a shop assistant in a coma with irreversible brain damage.

Mr Justice Simon Brown told Harvey Stevens: "You have been convicted of a most horrific crime of truly awesome wickedness, carried out with ruthless, brutal determination and callousness, it cannot be regarded as anything less than murder."

"You ended this woman's life as completely as if you had killed her. It may have been better if you had."

Stevens, of Erithwell Drive, Lakenhead, Suffolk, had denied attempting to murder Miss Pamela Banyard, aged 33, of Littleport, Cambridgeshire, but was found guilty by a jury at Norwich Crown Court.

He was also sentenced to six years youth custody for robbery to run concurrently, which he admitted.

His brother, Mark, aged 14, who admitted acting as a lookout while the robbery was carried out, was sentenced to three months' detention.

The court was told that Miss Banyard was alone in the shop at Lakenhead when Stevens made his savage assault.

Stevens robbed the shop of £147.

July 17 1987

PARLIAMENT

Home Office urged to increase police numbers

MPs on both sides of the Commons called on the Home Office to increase the number of police available for patrolling the inner cities in order to cut down crime. But Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said that to reduce crime simply by increasing police numbers meant recruiting not hundreds, but thousands more officers.

Mr Winston Churchill (Davyhulme, C), opening the debate, said that the Government's strategy was designed to regenerate housing, businesses and jobs in the decaying and festering hearts of major cities, but that new life and hope would come to nothing if the people who lived there did not feel secure in their homes or on the streets.

The inner cities faced an alarming situation as instances of all types of crime surged, but there was a shortage of police manpower and resources to deal with crime.

Grants and other inducements to people to move to the inner cities and set up businesses were not enough so long as they felt threatened and frightened in their environment. Adequate policing was a prerequisite to urban regeneration.

"Unless the situation is addressed decisively it will get out of hand in the inner cities where the crime rates are surging and the detection rates declining," Mr Edward Garrett (Wallend, Lab) said that he was impressed by the dedication of men on the police courses at which he lectured, and by their avoidance of cynicism despite the pressures on them.

Young people were not accepting their responsibilities as citizens, and parental attitudes were a major factor in the increase in petty crime. Parents did not have the courage to tackle their children when they did wrong, so a period of re-education was needed. Mr Irvine Patnick (Sheffield, Hallam, C), in a maiden speech, said that the loosening of family

ties, the decline of the community spirit, the relaxation of discipline and the blurring of the difference between right and wrong were among things which had played a part in increased lawlessness. Efforts to rekindle values were often ridiculed, but a rebirth in pride in the community had started in the inner cities.

Mrs Rosie Barnes (Greenwich, SDP) stressed the need to combat the fear of crime. Officers on the beat were invaluable in alleviating this fear, in making old women feel safe walking in the street and giving mothers confidence to allow their children to go to the park. Fear was paralysing the lives of some people in parts of the inner cities.

Every local authority should be obliged to set up a crime prevention unit. Labour authorities could pay for such units by diverting the money they spent on anti-police monitoring committees.

Mr Paul Boateng (Brent South, Lab) said that knives were now carried by many young people as a matter of course. That, and the prevalence of drugs and racial harassment, were the problems that had to be tackled in the interests of enforcement and maintenance of safety and security in the inner cities.

No one who cared about crime prevention could believe it healthy or useful for the police, local authorities and the communities they represented to be apart. Everyone wanted to see them working together effectively and co-ordinately.

Mr Christopher Butler (Warrington South, C), in a maiden speech, said that remission and parole were given too freely. He believed in parole "but it is crazy that the parole board or judges themselves should not have some power of insisting on some period of supervision in the period of remission or even after it."

"We are, sadly, allowing the size of our prison population to dictate our criminal justice and

penal policy. It is an example of the tail wagging the dog."

With dismay he had heard the Home Secretary announcing his intention to free another 3,000 or more prisoners by relaxing further the remission provisions. "If we go down this road we are diluting the deterrent of the criminal justice system," Mr Butler should think again.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that inner city crime could not be separated from inner city unemployment, poverty, deprivation, housing problems and the reduction in public services caused by the rate support grant cuts endured by every authority with inner cities within its boundaries.

Areas of the country had been written off by the Government. Inner cities were becoming alienated from the rest of society, and the greatest alienation, or certainly the greatest potential alienation, was among the ethnic minorities.

He wanted more police in inner cities: more policemen on the beat, devoted to the success of these areas and to the interests of their people. Black British and Asian British felt that there was police discrimination against them and it was the duty of the police and community leaders to try to remove that feeling of alienation.

Amid Conservative cheers, he commented: "I am prepared to say to those authorities which want to drive a wedge between police and public that they are wrong. I hope that Conservatives will reciprocate that dangerous broad-mindedness by saying that there are cases when police behaviour is something about which we have to take legitimate exception and which has to be improved and corrected."

The police must be partly responsible to an elected authority and behave in a way which would convince the public that they were working with them.

Mr Anthony Coombs (Wyre Forest, C), in a maiden speech, said that despite the lurid stories of violent crime in the press, most people in the inner cities were peaceful and law-abiding and deserved even-handed policing irrespective of social or racial considerations.

A new and virulent form of anti-racism was based on the premise that all white people were inevitably racists and they had to be purged of this by compulsory racial awareness training.

Mr Christopher Smith (Islington South and Finsbury, Lab) said that he was pleased that justice had been done at long last in the case in which five innocent lads in his constituency had been the subject of an unprovoked and brutal attack by police, in August 1983, and that the Old Bailey judge dealing with the case had sent out a clear message that police officers who overstepped the mark in this way would be brought to account.

The methods and procedures of the police complaints authority must now be reviewed. The public could not have confidence in the independence of a system of the police policing themselves.

The Home Secretary had refused to re-open the inquiry. It was Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, who had offered immunity from prosecution to those who could help bring the guilty to justice. That must raise questions about the role of the Home Secretary as the police authority for London. Greater democratic accountability was necessary.

All these lessons must be learnt if they were to ensure that an incident such as this could never happen again. Mr Hogg said that the Government had committed more resources, energy and imagination to ensuring that there was a properly resourced law and order programme, than had any previous administration.



Mr Butler: Home Secretary should think again on remission

To suppose that the problem of crime could be tackled solely by increasing the number of paid officers would mean talking in terms, not of hundreds of officers, but thousands and that was not a policy the Government could put forward.

They must increase force establishments in a steady, evolutionary, progressive way to meet identified needs. There was no positive correlation between the number of police officers and the detection of crime.

"On the question of knives, I agree that there is a major problem and I very much hope the Government will be able to come forward in the near future with positive proposals to deal both with the sale of certain offensive weapons and, I hope, with the carrying of them, although I can give no commitment."

On the court case in which five police officers had been jailed following an assault on schoolboys, he said that there could be no criticism of the officers who had carried out the investigation.

The police complaints authority was regarded as an efficient and independent investigatory

body. It would not be right to dilute the standard of proof currently required in police disciplinary cases. There were lessons to be learnt by all, including the Government, from the case.

Mr Clive Soley (Hammersmith, Lab) said that the current policy on law and order had failed disastrously. Ministers wanted to do something about it, but they had to placate voices in their party calling for tougher measures, so there was the absurdity of the Criminal Justice Bill to allow political pressure to be put on the Attorney General to relax lenient sentences for remission to several thousand prisoners.

Mr Terence Dicks (Hayes and Uxbridge, C) said that most people were sick and tired of listening to pleas for special consideration by ethnic minorities.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North, Lab) said he had been at Wapping many times during the year-long dispute. He had witnessed the police lined up in ranks as if preparing for a medieval battle.

Representatives of the print unions and the police had met and, on occasion, reached agreement on policing methods. But many officers were out of the control of their commanders and used indiscriminate violence against peaceful protesters.

Mr David Bevan (Birmingham, Yardley, C) said that a system of photo-identity cards should be introduced. It would protect the innocent and only the guilty need fear it.

Complete list of Government

On Monday *The Times* will publish a complete Government list, detailing the main responsibilities of each minister.



BEATRICE DALLE
As You've Never Seen Her.

TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY
As You Never Thought You'd See Him.

MADONNA
As You'll Soon Be Seeing Her.

LOVE, LUST AND THE LAW
As Far As You're Allowed To Go.

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY GUIDE TO MOVIES, MUSIC AND FASHION

Sri Lanka plan dra

Sheikh's message

Lightning

10 bombs rock Lima

US art show

Pakistan may hang terrorists

WORLD SUMMARY

Sri Lanka peace plan drawn up

Colombo — Hopes for a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem have risen this week after a series of meetings involving President Jayewardene, the Indian High Commissioner and Cabinet ministers (Vijitha Yapa writes).

A new proposal calls for a single provincial council for the island's northern and eastern provinces which in effect recognizes a persistent Tamil demand. Since there has been opposition to the eastern province linking up with the north, mainly from Muslims, the proposal envisages a referendum in the eastern province within a year to confirm the arrangement. There have also been indications that India will help to deal with any Tamil group which tries to resist any accord, according to informed sources.

Sheikh's message

Beirut (Reuters) — A leading Shia Muslim cleric was quoted yesterday as saying a negotiated peace in southern Lebanon was not the way to confront foreign-backed universities in Lebanon.

Local newspapers said the cleric, Sheikh Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, told a group of Muslim university graduates that foreign professors were "not directly linked to espionage and conspiracies". Five academics from the American University of Beirut and Beirut University College are among 29 foreigners missing, believed kidnapped, in Lebanon. Four of the academics are Americans.

Sheikh Fadlallah is the spiritual mentor of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God).

Luanda pledge

Luanda (Reuters) — Angola and the United States have pledged to continue seeking a negotiated peace in southern Africa and the rapid implementation of a United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia.

A communiqué issued yesterday by the Angolan Government after two days of talks in Luanda with Mr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, said both sides had reviewed the problems which had led to the suspension more than 15 months ago of formal contacts between the two nations.

Angola broke off talks with Washington in protest at an American decision to send military aid to Angolan rebels.

Lightning air scare

Madrid — Lightning put the entire air traffic control centre for the Madrid area out of action for three to eight minutes at a time when 34 planes were in the area, carrying a total of nearly 7,000 passengers, it was revealed here yesterday (Harry Debelius writes).

Lightning struck the lightning rod at the control centre at Paracuellos, on the edge of a bluff overlooking Madrid's Barajas Airport on July 7. The unusual intensity of the electric charge affected computer circuits. It took two days to repair the major part of the damage, and during that time, air traffic was controlled "manually" — without radar and automated tracking aids.

10 bombs rock Lima

Lima (Reuters) — Ten bombs exploded in Lima last night, including one near the presidential palace. Five people were injured and a third of the city was blacked out for 20 minutes.

Areas of 11 other Peruvian provinces were blacked out, but the National Electricity Commission said this was due to technical problems rather than bombings.

Police said they did not know if the bombings were carried out by the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas or by the Marxist Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement.

US art show halted

Peking (Reuters) — The United States has called off a planned exhibition of 51 portraits in Peking after Chinese officials demanded that paintings of General MacArthur and Golda Meir be left out. US officials said.

They accused China of trying to censor the exhibition of works from the US National Portrait Gallery. A spokesman for the China Exhibition Agency said he was still negotiating with American cultural officials and believed the September show might still go ahead.

Pakistan may hang terrorists

From Zahid Hussain Karachi

The Pakistan Government is considering enforcing a new anti-terrorist law which requires public hanging for those found guilty of terrorism. Mr Muhammad Khan Junejo, the Prime Minister, has declared.

Referring to the recent bomb blasts in Karachi which left 73 dead and about 200 injured, Mr Junejo said at a press conference on Thursday that the Government was taking the wave of bombings in Pakistan over the past six months very seriously.

The Prime Minister blamed Afghanistan for the blasts, but added that India was "training saboteurs, in league with hirelings" who may be behind the recent blasts in Peshawar, Lahore and Karachi. While President Zia singled out Afghan responsibility for terrorist acts in Pakistan in a statement on Wednesday, Mr Junejo said that the possibility of India's involvement could not be ruled out.

He recalled that in talks with the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in Bangalore last November he had observed that India was organizing 17 training centres for guerrillas with a view to sending them to Pakistan's Sind province to destabilize the country.

Meanwhile, 20 women protesters and a former mayor of Karachi were among about 50 people arrested here on Thursday evening for anti-government demonstrations. Vehicles were set on fire in the protest, in response to a strike call by opposition parties, but police using tear gas broke up the demonstration.

Moroccan King cuts short visit

By Nicholas Beeston

King Hassan of Morocco yesterday cut short plans for a golfing weekend to attend to "pressing business" at home.

The King, who ended a four-day state visit to London yesterday, is flying home today. He had originally planned to move to the Gleneagles Hotel in Scotland.

"A change to the schedule of the private part of his visit was always a possibility, he has many royal duties to attend to at home and they clearly take precedence over his golf," one diplomat said. He ruled out the possibility that King Hassan had been offended by some disparaging reports in the British media.

Both Buckingham Palace and the King's aides described the visit as a complete success, in spite of controversy about the possible sale of British arms to Morocco.

Opposition MPs and peers accused the King of using his trip to London as a cover for buying weapons to fight the 12-year war against the Polisario Front guerrillas over the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara.

During his stay in Britain, King Hassan held talks with Mrs Thatcher and senior Cabinet ministers. The two leaders agreed that an international conference on the Arab-Israeli problem was the only way forward. King Hassan is believed to have discussed the matter also with King Hussein of Jordan, who is on a private visit to London.

Police tighten cordon as Paris breaks off ties with Tehran



Police gathering in the Place d'Iéna near the Iranian Embassy in Paris, as security was increased after France broke off relations with Tehran.

The Iran-Contra hearings

Poindexter position looks bleak

From Michael Binyon Washington

Rear-Admiral John Poindexter, vigorously disputing assertions that he was still lying in order to protect President Reagan, insisted yesterday that it was purely his personal judgement that led him to conclude that he should not tell the President about the diversion of Iran arms profits.

The former National Security Adviser said that he believed, after five years of working with President Reagan, that this would be the best thing to do. But he denied that Mr Reagan had ever ordered him to keep information from him or indicated that he did not want to take responsibility. "This President was willing to make tough decisions," he said.

He said his action in not telling Mr Reagan was "A

personal judgement. The situation was very clear in my mind. I felt confident that he would want to do this." Asked if, in light of the White House statement on Thursday that anyone withholding information from Mr Reagan was doing him a "diservice", he would still do the same, he replied unequivocally: "Yes." He said he still believed Mr Reagan would have approved his actions if asked, but admitted this flatly contradicted what the White House was now saying.

"I would have expected him to say that. That is the whole idea of deniability," he said. On his third day of testimony, marked by frequent clashes between his lawyer and the congressional committee's counsel, he also admitted that he withheld information from earlier congressional inquiries be-

cause "I simply didn't want side interference" in the secret programme to help the Nicaraguan Contras.

But he insisted that he had no intention of arranging a cover-up in November when he destroyed a key document authorizing the transfer of arms to Iran or helped draft false chronologies for the White House.

Admiral Poindexter said he had withheld information from Congress because he did not want any more "restrictive legislation" to stop US aid to the Contras.

He was repeatedly pressed on whether he would have wanted Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North to lie to Congress, as the colonel testified he did, rather than reveal the aid to the Contras. He agreed that he expected Colonel North to be evasive, but would not say what he ex-

pected him to do if asked directly about the Contras.

The questioning yesterday was sharp, and Admiral Poindexter's position looked increasingly bleak. The session began with a bitter complaint by Mr Richard Beckler, his lawyer, that the hearing was unfair because some of the committee members and their counsel have publicly questioned the truthfulness of Admiral Poindexter's testimony.

Mr Beckler overruled in his request to have the hearing cancelled. But Admiral Poindexter gave an assurance that although he protected Mr Reagan in 1986, there was no longer a need to do so, and he was speaking the truth.

Senator Daniel Inouye, the Democratic chairman of the Senate committee, sternly rebuked both Mr Beckler and Admiral Poindexter, whose

testimony he called "incredible, mind-boggling, chilling".

Admiral Poindexter also complained that his remarks about destroying the President's 1985 "finding" on shipping arms to Iran had been misinterpreted. He said neither he nor Mr Reagan had ever considered the initial document to be approval of a straight arms-for-hostages swap. But because the finding was incomplete, it read like that. Therefore, Admiral Poindexter said, he destroyed it.

The admiral admitted he was surprised that Colonel North had told both the late William Casey, the CIA director, and Mr Robert McFarlane, the former National Security Adviser, about the diversion, as he had insisted that Colonel North tell no one.

Admiral dismisses 'arms for hostages' theory

A partial text of Rear-Admiral Poindexter's testimony yesterday to the congressional committee in Washington.

Mr John Nields (committee counsel): You were aware in November of 1985 of the shipment of Hawk missiles by Israel to Iran before the shipment occurred? ...

Poindexter: The President did not view that, at the time, as arms for hostages. I did not either; I do not today. The hostage aspect was one small part of the plan, obviously an important part. The finding that he (the President) signed (on December 5) only addressed the retroactive aspect of the CIA's assistance on that one shipment. In no way can that be considered an arms for hostage arrangement. Because the finding only addressed that part, it can be interpreted that way, taken out of context. And that's exactly how my testimony to date has been taken by the press, out of context.

On "Nightline" (a US television programme) last night (Thursday), the moderator said that I had testified that it was simply an arms for hostage

arrangement ... That's not what I testified, and that's not what happened. When I saw that finding, on the 21 November of 1986 ... I recognized then, and I think my judgement was accurate, as has been borne out in the past few days, that that would be interpreted as an arms for hostage arrangement.

I didn't go through a long, orderly thought process as to what to do with that. And at that point I was damned annoyed. I was still annoyed that I'd been pressured into getting that signed before it was fully staffed. And so, without thinking about it, I tore the finding up.

The things you just told us, you had forgotten by the time November, 1986 rolled around?

That is correct. You'd forgotten that you knew about the shipment of the Hawks before they were shipped?

That is correct. You'd forgotten that you knew that a CIA proprietary had been used to ship them?

Every day in the White House, I received hundreds of documents, hundreds of messages ... We had

been involved in many, many issues over the year I simply did not remember ... I've explained to you why I tore up that finding.

It had nothing to do with trying to cover up some Hawk shipment, or something like that ... I simply saw it (the finding) as contributing to the story that the President's initiative was an arms for hostage arrangement, which it was not, which he did not feel it was, and in fact, it was not.

Who decided how that money (from the Iran arms sales) would be used?

My guidance to Colonel North was that those funds should be used for support of Contras in Central America so they could keep the pressure on the Sandinistas.

Was it your understanding that any part of that money would go to the personal benefit of General Secord?

That issue wasn't addressed one way or the other ... I had great trust and confidence in Colonel North and General Secord and I think they're both patriots. I still do ...

I did not authorize him (Colonel North) to make false statements. I did think that he would withhold information and be evasive, frankly, in

answering questions. My objective all along was to withhold from the Congress exactly what the NSC staff was doing in carrying out the President's policy ... The Boland Amendment did not apply to the NSC staff; the US Government was complying with the letter and spirit of Boland, and I thought that was sufficient ...

What led you to believe that he (the President) would want deniability, as opposed to responsibility for an embarrassing political decision?

That was a personal judgement on my part. Did you believe it was what he would want?

I felt confident that he would want to do this. He was very secure in his belief that it was the only way that we could bring about a democratic change to the Government in Nicaragua. That it was the only way that we could keep from ... having to use US soldiers on the ground in Central America ... He was willing by my assessment to take unilateral action; in other words, the President, exercising his Constitutional authority without necessarily getting the agreement from Congress.

New phase in Nicaraguan civil war
Contras hit key Army base

From David Gollob, Managua

The Contra rebels have destroyed a key Sandinista Army command post at San José de Bocay, in mountainous north-central Nicaragua, 30 miles from the Honduran border, according to a rebel communiqué issued in Honduras.

The Nicaraguan authorities have confirmed that the village of San José de Bocay was attacked shortly before dawn on Thursday, but deny any damage was done to military installations.

The Sandinista Army base in the village, which has a population of 3,000, is the command centre for two elite counter-insurgency battalions numbering about 1,000 men, and is the linch-pin of Sandinista defences against Contra infiltrations from neighbouring Honduras.

According to the rebel communiqué, a force of 120

Contras attacked the base, using explosives to destroy it and an adjacent military airstrip. The communiqué gave no figures on casualties in the fighting.

The Nicaraguan Army said 19 local militia men, six civilians and 12 Contras were killed in the attack. Although their accounts conflict, both

sides seem to agree that a big battle took place.

According to Contra sources in Honduras, the attack is the beginning of a new phase in the war, which will feature an escalation of offensives against Sandinista military targets. So far this year, Contra forces have focused on so-called "soft targets" such as poorly defended state farms and rural electricity installations, shying away from direct clashes with the numerically superior Sandinista Army.

The Nicaraguan Defence Ministry has invited journalists to visit the scene and verify that the military base was not hit. It is thought unlikely such an invitation would be extended if the authorities had any doubt that they could prove the Contras wrong.

The Government-controlled media give the hearings maximum play, and trumpet every new revelation as confirmation of the illegality of US support for the Contra war.

The Sandinista leadership, aware that the Reagan Administration has only another 17 months to run, appears torn between its hopes for a new Government that might abandon the Contras and its fears that President Reagan will take precipitate action to fulfill his pledge to "roll back" communist insurgency in Central America before his term expires.

A request by a US television network to film the President watching the hearings was refused, with the explanation that Señor Ortega does not personally monitor the proceedings. According to a Government source, Señor Ortega is convinced the hearings are just a "show", and is not prepared to lend himself to a "propaganda exercise" that would raise the profile of the congressional investigation.

"The scandal is now in its eighth month," the source

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Fresh Tunis violence is linked to trials of Islamic hardliners

From Susan MacDonald, Tunis

Eight policemen and a demonstrator were injured in violent demonstrations by Islamic fundamentalists which broke out simultaneously in two places in central Tunis on Thursday night.

The official Tunisian news agency, TAP, yesterday said the demonstrations were organized by the Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI).

In the violence, at least 200 young people carrying MTI banners began throwing petrol bombs and stones. Windows were broken and a police car burnt out before riot police were able to restore order. Several demonstrators, including the protest leaders, were arrested.

The demonstrations were the most violent since those in April organized to protest against the arrest of several hundred Muslim fundamentalists, including Mr Rachid Ghannouchi, the MTI leader.

The problem of Islamic fundamentalism in Tunisia has been growing for some years and has now reached considerable proportions. After the arrests in Paris last March of six Tunisians, said to be members of an alleged Iranian-inspired terrorist organization, the Tunisian Government broke off diplomatic relations with Iran. At the same time it announced that an Iranian-backed Islamic fundamentalist plot to overthrow the Government had been uncovered.

According to the Prime Minister, Mr Rachid Sfar, 1,500 people were arrested in March, of whom 300 are still in prison facing charges ranging from inciting public disturbances to plotting to overthrow the state.

Several small trials are being held to deal with minor offences — for which prison terms of two to three years are being imposed — but those believed to form the core of the movement will come before the State Security Court, probably within months, on charges which could carry the death sentence.

This severe crackdown, said to be on President Bourguiba's orders, has been accompanied by accusations of police brutality, torture and intimidation of the families of those being held.

In spite of similar crackdowns on legal opposition parties and the independent Tunisian League for the Defence of Human Rights, they have managed to protest against the length and conditions of the detention of the fundamentalists while at the same time distancing themselves from their extremist religious views.

While the threat to Tunisia from Islamic extremists inspired by the idea of religious revolution in the Iranian style is not taken lightly, there is also fear that widespread repression may aggravate the situation and lead to a general deterioration in political and social freedom.

The Islamic fundamentalist movement began to emerge in Tunisia in the early 1970s, particularly at the university, and was at first said to be tolerated by the Government as a buffer to extreme left-wing organizations.

Its strength grew steadily and its views became more radical after the 1979 Iranian Shia Muslim revolution, although the roots of Sunni

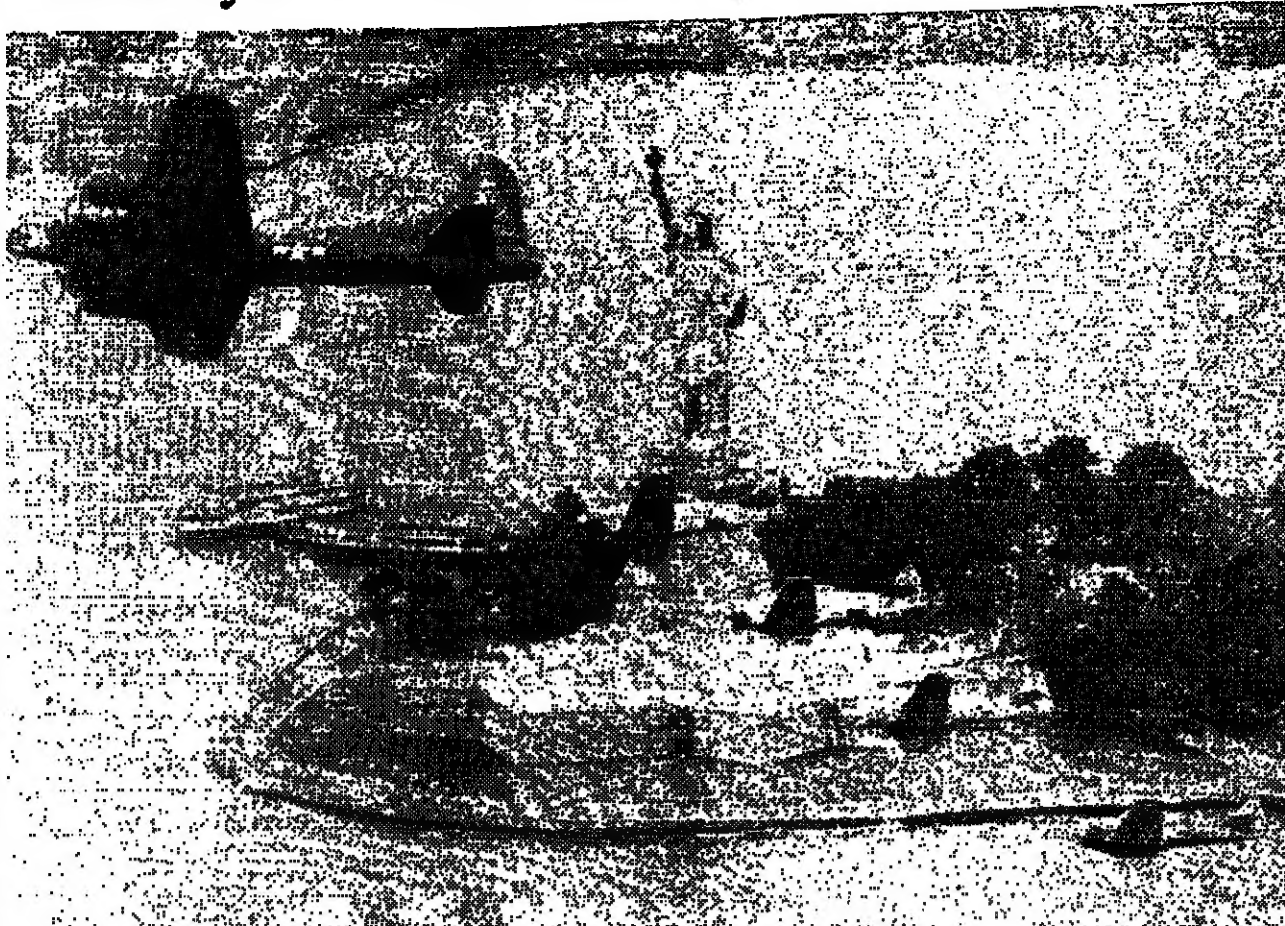
Muslim fervour in Tunisia are considered to be founded in growing dissatisfaction and disillusionment in intellectual circles and among the young, in spite of the benefits of President Bourguiba's modernizing social equality reforms. More than half the population is under 25 years of age. Many school and university leavers are unemployed, while those coming in from the countryside to find work in the towns lose touch with their traditional roots. In addition, political freedom of expression has been progressively curtailed since a brief flowering in 1981.

Yearly clashes between Tunis University fundamentalist students and those belonging to the extreme left have become increasingly violent, culminating in the serious disorder earlier this year which led to many arrests and a reinforced police presence on the university campus.

The MTI has publicly denied that it is an Iranian-backed organization. Opposition parties maintain that the best way to control such a movement would be to allow it a limited amount of political licence so that its arguments can be refuted in open debate.

The announced trial of Mr Ghannouchi and other MTI leaders could prove a turning point. The Government has asked the legal opposition to support it unreservedly in its fight against the fundamentalists, and the opposition parties must decide on the stand they will take once the verdicts are announced. The threat of death sentences is a serious one — there were 13 executions in Tunisia during 1986.

Liberty's welcome for the returning warrior



A Second World War B 17 "Flying Fortress", shadowed by four small T 5 trainer aircraft, arriving over New York harbour after its flight from England. The B 17 was one of the American giants of the war. This survivor, one of the last of more than 12,000 built, is headed for Houston, Texas, where it will become part of the collection of the Lone Star Flight Museum.

Swedes file drugs charge

Date fixed for British captain's trial

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Simon Hayward, a captain in The Life Guards, has finally been charged with smuggling cannabis into Sweden and will appear in court on Thursday.

Captain Hayward has denied smuggling 110lbs of cannabis worth an estimated £500,000, and was still in jail at Uppsala 40 miles north of Stockholm yesterday, where he has been held for most of the time since his arrest on March 13.

The public prosecutor, Mr Ulf Forsberg, formally charged Captain Hayward yesterday as Swedish police again pressed Interpol to step up the hunt for the captain's brother, Christopher. He is also suspected of involvement in smuggling cannabis to Sweden from the Spanish island of Ibiza, where he lived in the town of San Juan before his disappearance shortly after his brother's arrest.

Mr Forsberg said the last reliable sighting of Christopher Hayward was in the

Caribbean on board his 50ft catamaran True Love with his French girlfriend Jamile.

Captain Hayward's girlfriend, Miss Sandra Agar of London, checked out of the Uppsala Hotel in which she had been staying while visiting him. Staff there said they had no idea where she was, but Mr Forsberg told *The Times* that she was not expected to attend Captain Hayward's trial.

Captain Hayward himself was not present when the charge was made yesterday, and stayed in his cell. He was given a one-hour break for exercise and sunbathing on the roof and spent some time in the jail's gymnasium, where he has been keeping himself fit, using a training bicycle.

His trial will start before a judge and a five-man committee of politically-appointed jurymen.

Mr Christopher Hayward is a former member of the Indian Bagwan religious sect, as are seven other people who

have already been sentenced in the Hayward case.

The 170-page bundle of documents that the prosecutor handed in to Judge Ulf Hellebacher at Uppsala Court formally charging Captain Hayward contained several sworn statements.

In one of these, Captain Hayward admitted that part of his original statement to Swedish police was "not completely true".

This concerned the reason he claims to have visited Sweden in March. When he was first arrested by police while he was driving a 1982 British-registered green Jaguar sports car owned by Christopher Hayward, in the chassis of which police later found the cannabis, he said he had come to Sweden for a ski-ing holiday.

In the new statement handed in to the court yesterday, he said: "That is not completely true. I came to Sweden because my brother

had asked me if I could drive his car back to England. Later he said to me that he had found a buyer in Sweden.

"I was asked if I could do him a favour and drive the car to Sweden instead of England. That is the reason I came to Sweden."

Mr Forsberg said he still hoped to persuade Scotland Yard to change its mind and allow two officers in its National Drugs Intelligence Unit to give evidence for the prosecution at the trial, which is expected to last four days.

He accused the British police of bowing to political pressure in turning down his request that the officers should give evidence.

Mr Forsberg yesterday angrily refuted claims that the captain's mental and physical health had deteriorated during his long remand. He said that a doctor had found him to be in excellent physical and psychological shape.

Dark Age justice, page 8

Mutiny against Gandhi spreads

From Gavin Bell, Delhi

Just when Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, appeared to have restored order in his Congress (I) party flagship by banishing three mutineers, another has threatened to capsize it by jumping overboard.

Mr V.P. Singh, a former Defence Minister, resigned on Thursday night shortly after Mr Gandhi had expelled the three prominent dissidents for "anti-party activities".

In a telegram to the Prime Minister, Mr Singh condemned the dismissals, saying: "The message is loud and clear, that any Congressman can be politically hanged without a hearing, or any specific reason, by a nominated and ultimately non-elected party set-up. If throwing me out of the party will help the party, I

Delhi — Gunmen apparently tried to kill Mr Arif Mohammad Khan, a party dissident, last night (Gavin Bell writes). A mob was hearing him when about five shots were fired. Two attackers were beaten by his supporters.

am ready to offer this supreme political sacrifice by submitting my resignation."

Assuming that Mr Singh's resignation is accepted, his defection is a serious prestige blow to Congress, presently assailed by a humiliating series of corruption scandals and state electoral defeat. He had been granted a stay of execution as other heads rolled this week, apparently because of expressions of loyalty to Mr Gandhi.

But Mr Singh has been campaigning vigorously against corruption and what he regards as undemocratic political practices, and has a considerable following. A demanding ally, he may prove to be a dangerous foe.

Meanwhile, Mr Arun Nehru, Mr Arif Mohammad Khan, and Mr V.C. Shukla, the three condemned dissidents, have launched a counter-attack. Mr Shukla, a Minister of State under the late Mrs Indira Gandhi, said they would continue to campaign against corruption and communalism.

Waldheim invitation angers Israel

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The first visit to Israel by an Egyptian foreign minister for six years has got off on the wrong foot before it begins.

On Monday Mr Esmat Abdel-Meguid arrives for a three-day visit which was meant to concentrate on improving relations between

the two countries and on the peace process. Instead, it is in danger of being overshadowed by his country's invitation to President Waldheim of Austria to make a state visit.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, has already angrily said that if he were an Egyptian leader he would not have invited the

man Jewish leaders allege is a Nazi war criminal.

The matter is to be raised during the Egyptian minister's meeting with Mr Shamir and Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, who is most anxious to talk about convening the international peace conference which he supports, but which Mr Shamir opposes.

BANNED

As The Sunday Times fights to continue its revelations from Spycatcher, we report on the astonishing battle over the book the Government would rather you didn't read.

PETER WRIGHT
Former Assistant Director of MI5

DUEL IN THE CROWN?

IS THE DUCHESS STEALING THE LIMELIGHT FROM THE PRINCESS?

THE SUNDAY TIMES
MORE GOOD READING THAN A MONTH OF OTHER SUNDAYS

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

Mutiny
against
Gandhi
spreads
From Gavin Bell
Delhi

Cavaco threatens to quit unless he gets an outright majority

With final appeals to still undecided voters, Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva, Portugal's Social Democratic leader, ended his campaigning yesterday hoping for an outright majority in tomorrow's general election.

In spite of leaked Government-inspired opinion polls showing the ruling Social Democrats within grasp of their goal, the tone of the final hours of the campaign suggests that the leaders of the right-of-centre Social Democratic Party are less than certain of getting an absolute majority. Indeed, in a last attempt to pressure voters Professor Cavaco has threatened to quit rather than lead another minority government as he did until April.

To obtain an outright majority — 126 seats in the 230-seat National Assembly — when no single party has achieved this in the five previous general elections since the 1974 revolution, would be to break the present

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon

mould of Portuguese politics. Professor Cavaco, whose party had only 88 seats in the old Parliament, has admitted that the present system of

proportional representation, throwing up five sizeable parties in the outgoing Assembly, is making it difficult for a single party to achieve an outright majority.

At mass rallies in Lisbon and the nearby industrial city of Setúbal, the acting Prime Minister has even suggested that it is a "patriotic duty" to ensure that the country will enjoy four years of stable government under his leadership.

Professor Cavaco has based his nation-wide appeal on the

fact he was only allowed to serve for 16 months as head of a minority government before it fell last spring even though, helped by a favourable world economic climate, it was doing well.

He insists that the alternative to his single party government would be a crisis-plagued left-wing coalition, made up of Socialists and of the left-of-centre Democratic Renewal Party of former President Eanes, depending on Communist goodwill — the same forces that unseated him.

He is offering stability and is pleading for a chance to finish a task so promisingly begun. He is hoping that not only the undecided but also those who intend to abstain will heed his plea. In the last election, 25 per cent of voters did not bother to turn out.

Obligated to hold the present elections at the height of the summer holiday season, the Social Democrats are worried that they may suffer more



Fishing for votes: Dr Vitor Constancio, the Socialist Party leader, speaking to a stallholder at a Lisbon market yesterday.

than left-wing parties since many of their middle-class supporters are already on holiday and would have to return home in order to vote.

However, Professor Cavaco has not excluded the possibility of governing with the votes of the right-wing Christian Democrats, who had 22 seats in the old Parliament, but whose internal divisions threaten a serious decline in voter support tomorrow.

Some of the sharpest attacks on Professor Cavaco have come from Senhor Adriano Moreira, the Christian Democrat leader and a former Minister of Overseas Affairs during the Salazar regime, accusing the Social Democrat leader of "poaching" right-wing votes.

For the Christian Democrats Professor Cavaco's economic programme is not radical enough, and they com-

plain that the Social Democrats are too entrenched in state sector top jobs to be serious about privatization. They want to revive the 1980 coalition government with the Social Democrats, the only time when the right enjoyed a clear majority since 1974.

Dr Vitor Constancio, the Socialist Party leader, on his part is offering himself as the only alternative for centre-left and left-wing voters. But just

as Professor Cavaco has gone "poaching" on the right, Dr Constancio's target is the sizeable left-wing block of votes which gave former President Eanes's Democratic Renewal Party 45 seats in the old Assembly.

The Portuguese Communist Party, which won 38 seats last time, offers itself to the electors under a new guise, the United Democratic Coalition, which includes the Greens.

Lisbon voters urged to do their 'patriotic duty'

Man held for arson attack on news office

Hong Kong (Reuters) — A Chinese immigrant was charged yesterday with attempting to set fire to the New China News Agency, Peking's de facto embassy in Hong Kong.

Court officials said Yeh Muh, aged 36, was arrested on Wednesday night. The arson attempt followed a series of bomb attacks on the agency which injured 15 people in the past five weeks.

Paid through the nose

Milan (Reuters) — A tourist who booked a double room in an Italian hotel was asked to pay an air conditioning supplement for his wife "because two noses breathe more air than one", according to Movimento Consumatori, a consumer organization.

It cited the case among ruses by hotels and restaurants to fiddle tourists, like "tourist spaghetti" — the normal product but costing much more.

Royal theft

Porto Ercole, Italy (Reuters) — A gold watch and jewellery belonging to the former Queen Juliana of The Netherlands have been stolen from the villa where she is staying with her husband, Prince Bernhard.

Tanker toll

Herborn (Reuters) — The death toll in last week's petrol tanker accident in this West German town has risen to five, after a man seriously wounded in the explosion died of his injuries.

Jamming over

Libya has stopped jamming the BBC's Arabic-language broadcasts from London, which it began in April during the Chad war.

Lardinois dies

The Hague (AP) — The Dutch statesman, M. Pierre Lardinois, the EEC's Commissioner for Agriculture from 1973-77, has died, aged 62.

Party leaders steal the limelight at expense of issues and policies



Professor Cavaco Silva: Has moved to the right.

From Our Own Correspondent
Lisbon

No Portuguese general election has ever been so dominated by personalities at the expense of issues or party programmes as the one taking place tomorrow.

Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva, leader of the Social Democrat Party, who has established himself at the centre of the campaign, has sought to exploit to the maximum the changed mood away from the ideologies of a decade ago.

Some of the older leaders of the party, which he has taken further to the right, may be worried about the personality cult. But the man who took charge of the Social Democrats in 1985 shows no hesitation.

Little in the severe and lean outward appearance of the York University-trained economics professor suggests the leadership qualities he has developed since taking the party's helm. It was he who engineered the downfall of the Socialist-Social Democrat coalition in 1985.

Though he has concentrated in the campaign on the issue of stability of government, Professor Cavaco can also show in office that the country's inflation rate has come down, to around 16 per cent, and that foreign investment, with Britain leading, has responded well to Portugal's entry to the European Community.

He has gambled a lot within his own party on winning an outright majority tomorrow night, but unless he wants it,

it is unlikely that Professor Cavaco will cease dominating the political scene if his party does not achieve this. If he wins outright some of his opponents fear he will overshadow President Soares.

Dr Vitor Constancio, a 43-year-old economist, who spent some time at Bristol University, only took over from Dr Soares as Socialist leader one year ago, and promptly rid the party programme of its Marxist vestiges.

His position in the party remains disputed, however, and a failure by the Socialists to get back votes lost in the 1985 general election, when the party's representation in Parliament was almost halved, would put Dr Constancio's position in doubt.

General Antonio Eanes, Portugal's

President for 10 years after the revolution, is also staking much on tomorrow's result. Holding to the 1985 results is the goal of his Democratic Renewal Party, still not much more than a personal vehicle for the 52-year-old Army officer who fought in Portugal's colonial wars. If his party, which got 18 per cent of the vote last time, gets only 10 per cent this time, he may feel obliged to quit.

Dr Alvaro Cunhal, the veteran 72-year-old Communist Party leader, is the only figure with no direct personal stake in tomorrow's outcome. But a search is already on for a successor to the man who first took charge of the then underground party in the 1960s and suffered long prison sentences under the Salazar regime.



General Antonio Eanes: Staking a lot on result.

US warns Israelis on discrimination

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The State Department yesterday called in the Israeli chargé d'affaires and formally protested over 75 incidents so far this summer of discriminatory and arbitrary treatment of Arab and black Americans trying to visit Israel.

Department officials told Mr Oded Eran, the chargé pending the arrival of the new ambassador, that Israel had not acted on earlier US complaints. The spokesman said that if the alleged harassment did not end within 30 days, the US would issue an official travel warning to US Arabs and blacks telling them of the difficulties they would face.

Such a step would be an unprecedented public rebuke to Israel, and is a clear attempt by Washington to shame its close ally into treating all US passport holders equally.

The summoning of Mr Eran comes after a series of complaints by US citizens of Palestinian and Arab origin who said that they were detained by Israeli immigration officers, badly treated and forcibly put back on planes to the United States.

The American-Arab Anti-discrimination Committee, based in Washington, has cited about 30 such incidents this year. It said one woman and her four children were detained for 12 hours, denied the right to telephone the American consulate or speak to waiting relatives outside the terminal, and accompanied back to Paris by an Israeli official who insisted that they board a connecting flight to New York.

She said they were given only stale rice and bread to eat and nothing to drink, and found on her return to the US that someone has poured shampoo, peroxide and lotions from one case into another containing dresses and clothing.

American officials in Israel confirmed that they had complained about an "ingrained pattern" of mistreatment which had worsened over the past two years. "We've made clear to the Israelis that we are against anything that in our view discriminates on the basis of race, religion or national origin," one was quoted as saying.

US officials have also complained about the alleged harassment of black Americans, several of whom have been turned away. In two cases black pilgrims were ordered to post bonds of at least \$50,000 (£30,000) for the group because Israeli officials feared they were planning to join the black Hebrews' sect.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry has rejected the complaints, saying that they were part of a clear campaign to portray Israel in a negative light. Officials said immigration officers looked at each case on its merits, and restrictions were not aimed specifically at Arabs.

Peacock agrees to be Liberal deputy

From Stephen Taylor
Sydney

Mr Andrew Peacock, once the golden boy of Australian politics, saw what was probably his last chance of becoming Prime Minister disappear yesterday when his challenge to Mr John Howard for the leadership of the opposition Liberal Party was defeated by a convincing margin.

But there was cause for celebration by Liberals as, in a move to heal the divisions caused by their long-standing rivalry, Mr Peacock pledged loyalty to Mr Howard, and agreed to serve as his deputy.

At a joint news conference later, Mr Peacock ruled out another challenge in the next parliamentary term. Mr Peacock and Mr Howard then discussed the composition of the shadow cabinet.

The 41-28 parliamentary party vote in Mr Howard's favour was wider than predicted, and a solid endorsement of the leadership he gave in difficult circumstances for last week's election.

Mr Peacock promptly and unexpectedly signalled his preparedness to serve under Mr Howard, and comfortably beat Senator Fred Chaney for the post of deputy leader.

This reconciliation was a vital first step to purging the Liberals of the chronic disunity which cost them the election. And, in the longer term, Howard-Peacock could be the their dream ticket in 1990, particularly if by then they have shown that they can between them restructure an antiquated party organization.

Crisis in French prisons

Paris weighs early releases

From Diana Geddes, Paris

In a move designed to calm the spreading violence in France's severely overcrowded jails, M. Albin Chalandon, the Justice Minister, announced yesterday that he was ready to consider increasing the conditional release of prisoners if the unrest ceases.

Speaking at the Loos prison, near Lille, where there was trouble last Tuesday, M. Chalandon also announced that he had asked the courts to hand down alternatives to prison, such as community work, "wherever possible" in an attempt to keep down the prison population, which has increased by 12 per cent since the Government came to power 15 months ago.

There are now more than 50,000 inmates in jails designed to hold 32,500. In many jails, there are up to five prisoners in cells meant for

one. M. Chalandon recently announced plans to build places for 20,000 more, but the first of these will not be ready until 1989.

It was the overcrowding and poor conditions which started the unrest which began last Sunday and has so far affected half a dozen jails. Tensions have been further exacerbated by the recent heat wave and the absence of the usual presidential amnesty on July 14, Bastille Day.

The worst troubles have been in the Baumettes, in Marseilles, France's second biggest prison, where 2,400 men are crammed into accommodation designed for 1,000. On Thursday, some 100 inmates went on the rampage, setting fire to one of the two main prison blocks, destroying half its cells, breaking down doors with a bulldozer, ransacking the prison in-

firmary, and staging a three-hour roof-top protest.

Riot police using tear-gas grenades restored order after more than six hours. But there were noisy protests all night from prisoners back in their cells demanding an improvement in living conditions, and the police had to be called in again yesterday when some 60 inmates again attempted to climb on to the roof.

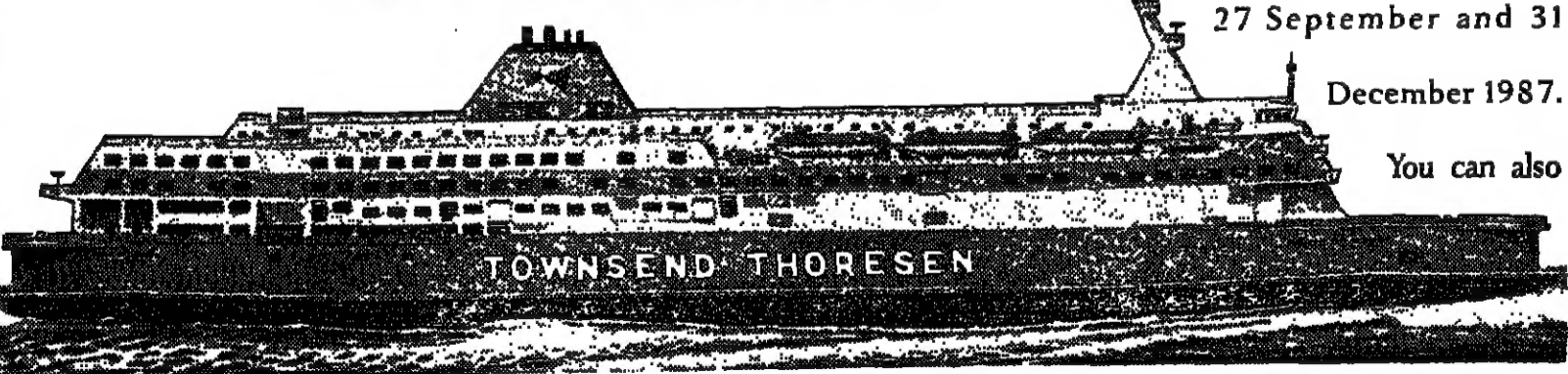
There were angry demonstrations by relatives outside the prison yesterday after the governor announced that he had suspended visits. The usual half-hour daily exercise has also been stopped for protesting prisoners.

One of the main prison officers' associations has called the situation "explosive". M. Chalandon himself has admitted that it is "very difficult" and called for calm.

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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Watching the form

In a week when we went down to the Aussies at Lord's, I hear of English womanhood holding its own in, of all sports, rugby. Of the 22 people who attended the RFU's recent Eastern Counties course for the intermediate coaching award only one was a woman — Valerie Moore, of Wasps. But, says Tony Russ, the Saracens' coach who ran the course, she was the best of the bunch, achieving the second best marks on the theoretical side and the highest on the practical. A triumph of a different sort awaits a woman athlete in the World Student Games at Zagreb tomorrow; however badly she might do in her event, the girl judged the prettiest will be declared Miss Universiad. I gather that the front runners are Nawal el Moutawakil of Morocco, Gwen Torrence and Denean Howard of America, and the Chinese fencer, Li Hua Hua.

Just bootiful

At this year's Sloane Ranger Handicap at Sandown Park on Wednesday, *Harper's and Queen* magazine, the sponsor, will announce the winner of its Best Dressed Sloane competition. The prize is an 18-carat gold and diamond pin in the form of a welly. It was designed by Garrards and cost a thousand quid.

Even the great ones drop the occasional clanger. Henry Cecil entered his horse Royal Hunt in the Raynes Park Filly Stakes next week. Only one thing wrong: Royal Hunt is a colt.

Briefs, too

In 1878, Clapton football club in east London made history by becoming the first British club to play in Europe — they went to Belgium and beat a Belgian team 7-0. Now they have become the first to be sponsored by a firm of solicitors and bear the proud legend Landau and Cohen on their breasts. Clapton had been having trouble negotiating a new lease on their Old Spotted Dog ground and took legal advice. The sponsorship deal was struck in part payment of the fee. At first the Law Society demurred, but has now given the go-ahead.

Hook-up

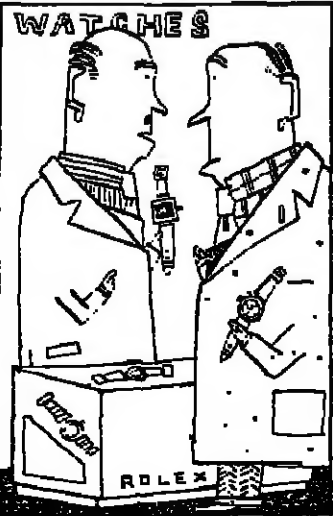
The era of the incredible boxing dalek is with us. It took East Germany to invent it: a fully computerized, mobile, fast-punching mechanical sparring machine called *Der Boxroboter* which does everything a human sparring partner does except get fed up. "It's hard to find good sparring partners, especially for heavyweights," said East German trade official Dieter Seale. He added: "Human sparring partners get tired after a few rounds, and they get punched too often." *Der Boxroboter* is man-shaped, with canvas-clad punching arms. It is faster across the ring than any human boxer. It can be programmed to fight in different ways: to go for your upper body, or belly, say, or to chivvy you into a corner. Some East German boxers are now using *Der Boxroboter* for 80 per cent of their sparring.

A car parked at Kempton Park race course this week showed one of the most enviable of all number plates: I BET.

How's this?

Last Sunday Bath Cricket Club and the Cricket Society played a match with a finish to go straight into my collection of glorious cricketing moments. The last over began with the society needing 12 runs to win, with four wickets in hand. The first ball went for six. The second yielded nothing. Two were scored off the third. The fourth ball bowled the batsman. The fifth bowled the next man. Barry Goddard, the captain, faced the sixth ball. He missed it, it missed the wicket, and so he left his crease to shake hands with the opposition captain. He did not notice that the ball had been called a wide, and he was stumped. Since the ball was a wide, another ball had to be bowled. From it, then, the society needed three runs, and Bath one wicket. The new batsman narrowly escaped being timed out — understandably, he was not padded up. He made it, and pushed the final ball wide of the bowler, and attempted a run. But there was a run out. Bath had won by two runs, having at one stage required four wickets with three balls remaining. My informant, Richard Bromford, adds: "Despite the result there was no question of any bad feelings." Hm.

BARRY FANTONI



'Accurate to 1/100th of a second — the King of Morocco has one'

Sweden's Dark Age justice

by John Gorst

After being held in solitary confinement for 126 days, Captain Simon Hayward of the Life Guards was charged yesterday with smuggling 110 lb of cannabis into Sweden.

From the moment of his arrest he has protested his innocence — the car in which the drug was found belonged to his brother, who immediately disappeared. His was the only completely unknown face among the dozen or so men and women detained after the find, all of whom had apparently been under Swedish police surveillance for some time. Yet until recently he had been denied the most elementary comforts; he had even been denied consultation with Sir David Napley, the family's solicitor.

Since I visited him 11 weeks ago the only people allowed to see him have been consular officials and his mother, who was told she must not discuss any aspect of the case with him. To incarcerate a man, particularly one of Captain Hayward's standing, for so long in conditions of such severity would, to most people in this country, perhaps presume a guilt that he is still to be tested in a court of law. And there, indeed, is the nub of the matter.

In Britain, a prisoner is considered innocent until proven guilty. In Sweden, there is a presumption of guilt from the moment of arrest. Here the law, administered by a completely independent judiciary, provides a shield for the individ-

ual against any misuse of power by the state. In Sweden, the judiciary is conceived as servant of the state, and the law is regarded as an instrument for its protection.

In British trials, in open court before judge and jury, the truth is arrived at in the process of searching examination and cross-examination. In Sweden, the meaningful examination takes place in the pre-trial process when, as in Captain Hayward's case, the suspect can be held if necessary in total isolation. This stage is confined exclusively to the public prosecutor and the police, with the suspect merely represented by a court-appointed defence lawyer. During this process the state virtually decides whether he is guilty; if he protests his innocence, the figures show clearly what little chance he has of being released after being put on trial.

A survey of the results of nearly 100,000 trials in Sweden reveals that in only one or two cases in every 100 does the defendant secure release. Essentially, the function of a Swedish court is not to decide whether a suspect is innocent or guilty, but to make a record of the evidence, and then to decide what penalty is appropriate once the defence and prosecution have had their say.

The treatment of evidence in this country and Sweden is so

different that it would be more appropriate to describe what they call evidence as testimony, much of which would be inadmissible in a British court, and even more of which would collapse under cross-examination.

The Swedish public are well prepared in this particular case. For four months, both prosecutor and police have conducted a sustained campaign to denigrate Captain Hayward through the columns of a docile press and over radio and television. Overt and covert briefings have disparaged anyone who has spoken well of him. Some at least of their "disinformation" has been both defamatory and untrue. In addition, it has been "suggested" to the media that they should not raise the issue of his civil rights.

Captain Hayward's defence lawyer, Tom Flach, normally reserved and taciturn, has expressed concern about the handling of this case. Last week he told *an Express* reporter: "I have never experienced a case which is so surrounded by question marks that will not be investigated."

What mystifies me is how an otherwise enlightened people, with so much of its culture respected and admired by the rest of the world, can accept a system of "justice" that harks back to the Dark Ages. For arbitrariness and

denial of human rights it is exceeded in modern times only by totalitarian states. In fairness to the Swedish people, however, I must add that a growing body of opinion is deeply critical of the law and its administration.

Captain Hayward's guilt or innocence is not for me to determine, although I confess that "beyond reasonable doubt" I personally, together with those who have served with him, and are familiar with his detestation of drugs, would be as surprised as they would be shocked.

What action should the government take? Opinion is stirring across the entire political spectrum. About 80 MPs have signed a motion calling for pressure to be exerted on Sweden to observe the spirit of the European Convention on Human Rights, of which it is a co-signatory. Some MPs intend to raise the matter at the next Council of Europe meeting in the autumn.

Whatever the verdict in the Hayward case, the Swedish government's daily violation of human rights will not simply disappear. More voices will be raised in protest. Public concern everywhere will continue until Sweden joins the rest of the civilized world in its respect for the rights of man.

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The author is Conservative MP for Hendon North.

John Grigg suggests a trip to Russia to speed the East-West thaw

A tour to crown them all



In China last October. Time now to think of Moscow

During her already long reign the Queen has paid 52 state visits to foreign countries (including, for the purposes of this figure, Commonwealth countries of which she is not head of state), and during the past week has received her 57th state visitor here. In some cases the dominant motive has been to celebrate and confirm an old friendship; in others, to assist a process of reconciliation.

Outstanding in the second category have been the exchanges of visits involving our principal enemies in the last war. The Queen has welcomed three presidents of the German Federal Republic to this country — 1958, 1972 and 1986 — and has herself been on two state visits to West Germany — in 1965 and 1978. By the same token, the Emperor of Japan came here in 1971, and the Queen returned the compliment in 1975.

(Incidentally, Emperor Hirohito must surely be the only man in history to have been twice a Knight of the Garter, having been one in his youth, before the war, thrown out after Pearl Harbour, and readmitted in 1971.)

As for the other main ex-enemy state, Italy, there have been two visits in each direction: Italian presidents here in 1958 and 1969, the Queen there in 1961 and 1980.

But what of ideological enemies of the cold war period? The great divide between communism and Western liberalism has proved an insuperable obstacle to state visits. Indeed, the Queen's most recent ceremonial trip abroad — last October — was to the largest (in population) of all communist countries — China.

Even the Warsaw Pact has yielded one state visitor, President Ceausescu of Romania, who came here in 1978. But the Queen has not returned the visit, nor has she yet been to any other country behind the Iron Curtain. Above all, she has not visited the Soviet Union, and until recently this was understandable enough. There was no friendship there to cement, nor — except, perhaps, during the brief early Khrushchev period — any significant chance of reconciling differences.

Even while Russia was a monarchy there was little contact between British and Russian heads of state. No British reigning monarch has ever visited Russia, and the only reigning Tsars who came here were Peter the Great — unofficially in 1697 (when he lodged in Deptford and made himself unpopular with the locals by riotous revelry), Alexander II in 1814, and the doomed Nicholas II, who stayed with Queen Victoria at Balmoral in 1896.

The Bolshevik revolution obviously created a profound estrangement, more especially as it led to the murder of the Tsar and his family. Nicholas II was a first cousin of George V, who therefore felt the outrage as a close relation no less than as a fellow sovereign. Moreover, his conscience must have been troubled by the knowledge that he had been unwilling, for reasons of dynastic prudence, to give his cousin asylum in Britain, even though the government of the day was prepared to let him in.

When, in 1924, the first Labour government gave diplomatic recognition to the Soviet regime, George V was able to avoid receiving its first head of mission because he was a mere *chargé d'affaires*, not an ambassador. Even when an ambassador was appointed, in 1929, the King pleaded illness (Kenneth Rose tells us) as an excuse for having the man's credentials accepted on his behalf by the Prince of Wales. But a few months later he brought himself to shake the ambassador's hand at a levee.

The reign of George VI witnessed the wartime Anglo-Soviet alliance and a wave of pro-Russian feeling in Britain, of

which the sword presented by the King to Stalingrad was a symbolic expression. The gift was formally announced in a letter from the King to President Kalinin, and the sword itself handed to Stalin by Churchill at the Tehran conference. (It has proved more durable than the name of the heroic city, which is now called Volgograd.)

The post-war freeze put an end to such gestures. But with the death of Stalin, and the denunciation of his regime by Khrushchev, there seemed for a time some prospect of better relations. In the spring of 1956 Khrushchev visited Britain with Bulganin. This was not technically a state visit, since neither was head of the Soviet state; but it was important, none the less.

The Queen received "B and K" at Windsor on April 22, at the rather odd hour of 5.30 pm. But what mattered was that she did receive them. Earlier they had sent presents for Prince Philip and Prince Charles (a horse each). In February, 1967, she gave a dinner at Buckingham Palace for another Soviet leader, Kossygin. But as prime minister he, too, was not in the strict sense a state visitor.

Now at last the time may have

come for higher marks of courtesy between the two countries. If we are prepared to credit Mr Gorbachev with a serious desire to change the Soviet system, and above all if we consider him sincere in wishing to bring about a détente in East-West relations, then we must surely give him all the backing we can.

Mrs Thatcher's recent visit to Moscow was probably as helpful to him as it was to her, showing that an ostensibly hard-line Western leader was willing to be his guest and, while still treating him as an opponent, to record her appreciation of him. In the same spirit a trip to Russia by the Prince and Princess of Wales, or even a full-blown state visit by the Queen, is now surely worth discussing.

Of course any relation, however distant, of the last Tsar must hesitate to give this ultimate recognition to the regime regime. The ghosts of Ekaterinburg are not to be ignored, and still less the innumerable, anonymous ghosts of the Gulag. But during the early years of the revolution Mr Gorbachev was not even alive, and he is too young, also, to bear any responsibility for Stalin's crimes.

The veteran Mr Gromyko, now head of the Soviet state, certainly was around during the Great Terror. But he was exclusively concerned with foreign affairs and so far less culpable than, for instance, Khrushchev. Yet the Queen did not shrink from receiving Khrushchev at Windsor.

Precisely because of the background, a British royal visit to Moscow would have a uniquely cathartic significance, beyond that of visits by French and American presidents. It would mark more dramatically than anything else could the normalization of the Soviet state, and the abandonment of its mission to overthrow all non-communist states. And the people of Russia, who gave a warm welcome to Mrs Thatcher, could be expected to greet the Queen even more warmly.

State visits have a useful function in politics, mainly reflecting, though to some extent influencing, the course of events. One of the most famous — that of Edward VII to Paris at the beginning of May, 1903 — did not in itself bring about the Anglo-French entente, but helped greatly to create the atmosphere in which it could be clinched the following year.

A visit by the Queen to Russia could be equally effective, and might acquire a comparable place in history.

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When an athlete is paid to lose

What is new in the 1980s is that with athletes now officially paid, some runners regularly prefer to act as pacemakers rather than compete in races. As Sir Arthur Gold, the president of the European Athletic Association, says: "There is something fundamentally rotten when men are paid to lose. They are getting a bigger fee for running and dropping out than in completing the distance."

Many people in athletics are concerned that the sport is too often a series of time trials for one outstanding runner, and except for the major championships like the Olympics or September's World Championships in Rome, is now becoming showbusiness.

Ron Pickering, the television commentator and former Welsh national coach, thinks that pacemaking is now "devaluing" the sport and debases any previous records that have been set in genuine races.

Runners like Aouita or Cram attempt world records knowing they are not going to be seriously challenged. The pair have not raced each other for two years. It is

financially more advisable for them to compete individually in record attempts than to risk defeat and have their appearance money rapidly diminish. Setting a world record in the 800m, 1500m, mile or 5000m can bring an athlete between £15,000 and £20,000 but appearance money can fall to less than £5,000 if he is badly beaten or loses form.

In the mile, 1500m or 5000m, a pacemaker is essential because the best physiological way to achieve a maximum performance is through an even, fast pace. The pacemaker also relieves the athlete attempting the record of the mental strain of running at a specified speed for the opening laps and simultaneously shields him from any wind. When the pacemaker has achieved his task, for as long as he is capable, he steps off the track.

Because records are becoming more difficult to break — no men's track records were set last year for the first time since they were officially recognized in 1913 — a pacemaker of skilled judgement is increasingly vital. James Mays is particularly popular because he is so consistent, and was used to help

Cram to the current mile record of 3min 46.32 seconds. He admits it is more profitable to pace a race than to run second. "Athletes get a bonus when they break a world record and if the hare is smart he fixes himself up with his own bonus for getting the job done," he says. Mays has virtually given up competition for pacemaking.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation, which formalized the £727,000 circuit of 16 Mobil Grand Prix events, did have regulations prohibiting pacemaking in record attempts but this proved impossible to implement. Its technical committee will again consider the question next month.

Mike Gee, the IAAF technical officer, emphasizes that the IAAF needs a rule that can be clearly identified and policed. Ron Pickering's proposal that any record where the pacemaker does not finish should automatically be disallowed raises the question whether the athlete, if he claims he was injured or ill on dropping out, should be medically examined.

The IAAF accepts that pacemaking is particularly contentious at the moment, partly because the media has highlighted the differences between the championships and the Grand Prix permit meetings. Gee says: "There is no practical alternative which has credence but this does not mean everything is satisfactory."

John Goodbody

Robert Kilroy-Silk

Work: one big danger zone

No one is safe from violence today, even at work. The taxman and the taxi driver, the teacher, the social worker and the bus conductor are all increasingly at risk of assault. Nurses, of all people, are in the front line, with student nurses the most vulnerable. According to the Health and Safety Commission 36 per cent of student nurses surveyed recently had sustained minor injuries in the past year; 40 per cent had been subjected to violent abuse.

The Health Service is a dangerous place to work. The commission says that one in every 200 Health Service workers had been attacked seriously enough to require medical treatment while 11 in 100 needed first aid; one in 11 of Health Service employees had been threatened with a weapon. As the Royal College of Nursing has acknowledged, most attacks occur on hospital premises. Accident, emergency, and the general and psychiatric wards are the most dangerous places. A staggering 42 per cent of ambulance staff have been threatened.

Matters have become so serious that one Birmingham hospital recently hired security guards to protect nurses from drunken patients on Friday and Saturday nights. The Royal College of Nursing now runs self-defence courses and urges health authorities to do likewise.

That nurses and other Health Service employees should be physically assaulted within the confines of a hospital while caring for the sick is incredible and disturbing. But they are not alone. It has been calculated that about 50 per cent of the working population now risk violent attacks while performing their duties.

The incidence of violence at work has become so high as to warrant the TUC convening a special conference on the subject. While Norman Willis, the general secretary, bemoaned the general rise in the number of assaults, a Nalco official pointed to specific examples: the trading standards officer beaten up because he "successfully" prosecuted over a dangerously overweight lorry; the electricity board employee attacked with a hatchet while attempting to disconnect the supply of a householder who had not paid his bill; housing officials threatened and assaulted. At the very moment that he was speaking, more than 100 staff at the new housing benefit office in Liverpool were striking over the council's refusal to erect security barriers to protect them from abusive and violent claimants.

Since the conference other

occupational groups have been drawing attention to their difficulties. Among them are Birmingham taxi firms who, defying police warnings, are setting up vigilante patrols to shield their drivers from late-night violence. One proprietor claims that without a protection squad his 25 drivers would refuse to answer calls from certain "no-go" areas. Their fears are corroborated by milkmen, postmen, firemen, police officers, doctors and social workers, all of whom are reported to be refusing to make calls in some areas at certain times.

Even the sober and sensible Inland Revenue Staff Association has demanded more protection for its members working in tax offices. According to the union they face increasing violence at the tax office counters as well as when making debt collections.

Today even teachers are at risk from their pupils. One survey has suggested that up to a quarter of all teachers have been threatened and that 10 per cent have been attacked. This is probably an underestimate. As one of the main teacher unions claims, many assaults go unreported. Some indication of the scale of the problem is shown by the 27 recorded cases of assaults on teachers reported by Merseyside police last year.

What then, is the government doing about this new occupational hazard? It is conducting investigations into the scale of the problem. Yet welcome and important as the surveys conducted by the Health and Safety Commission, the Tavistock Institute and the Cranfield Institute of Technology, among others, it is action that is needed.

The first step should be to round all employees of the legal obligation placed upon them by Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act to take all reasonable steps to protect their employees. The second should be to introduce the kind of "assault avoidance" measures, such as video cameras and screens, that have already demonstrated their effectiveness. Assaults fell by 27 per cent when screens were introduced on London buses.

Better still, of course, would be to identify and to eradicate the causes of this disease. Next best would be to catch, convict and punish the offenders. On this occasion we will settle for second best. It would certainly make the biggest contribution to safety at work.

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The author was a Merseyside Labour MP, 1974-86.

Michael Kinsley

Aids fuss that can only die

Washington
A year from now, nobody in America will be talking much about Aids. That's not a prediction about the course of the disease, which will probably be as expected — about 300,000 cases and 200,000 fatalities by 1991. It's simply an assertion that something else will come along.

Americans are incapable of maintaining the current level of hysteria about an issue for long. Remember nuclear war? Remember drugs? Oh, Aids is worse? So you say now. But as recently as 1983, nuclear war threatened all human life. If Aids kills 54,000 Americans in 1991, as predicted, it will rate fifth, between chronic lung disease and pneumonia, as a cause of death. The victims will mostly be young, admittedly, but the deaths can easily be absorbed into the background noise of a busy, distractible society.

Hastening this development will be the growing realization that Aids will almost certainly not break out into the general heterosexual, non-drug-using community. A woman's chance of getting Aids from sleeping once with an infected man is reported to be about one in a thousand. For men the odds are even better.

Since the keepers of the Zeitgeist tend to be heterosexual men who don't use intravenous drugs, the era of Aids television specials and news magazine covers is just about over.

The end of the Aids "crisis" may lead to complacency about taking precautions against a danger which, though small for most people, is genuine. Knowing that the disease will primarily affect a widely disdained minority may reduce society's commitment to finding a vaccine or cure. But the demise of Aids hysteria will at least undermine conservative attempts to exploit the disease.

American conservatives are more obsessed with Aids than any other group, apart from gays themselves. But the conservative Aids crusade is illogical. Concern about discrimination against Aids victims, says White House domestic policy adviser Gary Bauer, "takes a clear back seat to the protection of those Americans who are not yet infected." But you can only be infected by Aids through behaviour which these crusaders classify as immoral. Anyone who is chaste before marriage, monogamous within marriage, and avoids illegal drugs is at virtually no risk.

If the conservative crusade limited itself to promoting this gospel, there would be no puzzle. But conservatives are also zealous for widespread mandatory Aids test-

ing, or even — in the case of troglodyte Senator Jesse Helms — for isolating those with Aids. Yet for people who behave themselves as Bauer and Helms would wish, these measures are superfluous. Usually it is the left which accuses of using the government to shield people from the consequences of their own actions.

Clearly then, preventing the spread of Aids is not the main concern of the most vigorous advocates of a "tough" policy of Aids. Gays and civil libertarians are right to suspect what might otherwise be reasonable calls for increased Aids testing. They are right to suspect that the compromise between protecting the individual sufferer from discrimination and protecting society is no compromise at all to those who advocate testing. And they are right not to trust promises that test results will not be abused.

Even where Aids hysteria and discrimination against Aids victims bring no conceivable public health benefit, the Reagan administration has been indifferent, or worse, towards individual problems. It is clear beyond all doubt that Aids cannot be spread by non-sexual personal contact. Yet the Attorney General, Ed Meese, publicly endorsed the Washington police decision to wear rubber gloves while supervising a gay demonstration at an Aids conference in May.

Until rebuffed by the Supreme Court, the Justice Department took the fatuous position that job discrimination against Aids carriers is permissible, since an "individual's (real or perceived) ability to transmit a disease is not a handicap" under the law. By this cramped logic, an employer could legally refuse to hire blacks on the grounds of an irrational belief that working near blacks causes cancer.

Times of emergency, it is said, are when society's claims are at their peak and individual rights must bend the most. That's true. But times of extremity are also when irrational fears most threaten minority rights. The economic distress of Weimar Germany was fertile ground for anti-Semitic paranoia. Invasion hysteria made possible the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during the Second World War. People who lived through such episodes say: "You have to have been there to understand how it could have happened." With luck, and so thanks to America's present leaders, we will avoid having to do something similar about Aids some day.

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The author is editor of *New Republic*.

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INCORRECT REFERENCE

There are at present 115 airlines flying from the runways of the British Airports Authority. If the planned takeover by British Airways of its smaller rival, British Caledonian, is allowed there will be 114.

This should put in perspective some of the wilder claims being made about the threat to competition if the bid goes through. There are only a very few routes where the two airlines combined would have a monopoly. And on these the expedient of allowing another operator to take over the licences of BCal or BA would ensure that customers have a choice.

But there is clearly widespread concern about the merger which will make it difficult for Sir Gordon Borrie, of the Office of Fair Trading, not to recommend a reference to the Monopolies Commission and for Lord Young not to agree. That should not happen.

Sir Gordon should not recommend a reference. If he does, the Government should not agree. And if it does, the Monopolies Commission should rule as soon as possible that the merger can go ahead.

What are the arguments against the merger? It is suggested that it makes nonsense of the Government's airline competition policy. It cannot do that, because the policy has been shown to be a nonsense already.

Relying on the verdict of the Edwards Committee back in 1969, the Government supported a multi-airline industry. The Edwards report said that should mean a strong second force and ever since then governments of both parties and Sir Adam Thomson have been trying to create one. But what is magic about having two British airlines trying to compete across the board in world markets? Why not three or four or more? And what is the logic of saying that we should always have a second airline to "take over an intercontinental route from BA should the need arise". What are the circumstances which will make that happen and what is the airline supposed to do with its aircraft while they are waiting?

The consumer does not care whether his supplier is British or foreign so there is no need for a second British carrier to ensure competition. And the experience of past years shows that, far from two airlines giving us a greater share of the world market, it can actually reduce the number of people flying the flag if BCal as a weak competitor has to be given the right to fly a route in an effort to make the weaker airline viable.

What those who say that the merger should be blocked presumably favour is that BCal either be bought out by someone else, or that

the Government should change the rules to make it more profitable - probably by giving it some of the routes which BA currently flies.

It is a very odd kind of competition which is kept going by constant transfers of resources from the efficient and successful to those who are failing. It would in fact not be competition at all but State-enforced duopoly, in which the profits of the companies involved would depend on their ability to please not the customer but Mr Nicholas Ridley or whoever happened to be Secretary of State for Transport at the time.

Instead of going down this road, the Government ought to be doing more to promote real competition which would benefit consumers and reward the efficient while preventing BA using its large market power to rig the market.

It should encourage the European Commission to press ahead in the European Court to break up the cartels which disfigure the European air market, still a long way from any true deregulation. And it should give the independent airlines a chance to compete by removing as many restrictions as it can on entry to the market and ensuring that BA does not abuse its position at Heathrow to keep competing airlines out of the attractive routes.

But, advocates of a reference to the Monopolies Commission argue, even if all of BA's claims about the merits of the deal are true they ought to be exposed to the examination of the commission, which should then make its own recommendation. References to the Monopolies Commission are the Department of Trade and Industry's equivalent of the Royal Commissions so loved by the Wilson government. They postpone the need for decision and allow the Government room to try to pass the blame.

Yet what evidence is there that Sir Godfrey le Quesne, QC, excellent lawyer though he may be, is any better at deciding what makes business sense than Lord King and the market? This is not just a matter involving this particular takeover. Merger policy is in a mess because the criterion which dominates above all others is market share which effectively prevents the emergence of powerful British companies created within industries and promotes the creation of conglomerates. As Lord Young prepares to receive the report of his officials who have been studying the matter he should look to merger policy as an area where his own instinct for deregulation should be trusted. He ought to make a start by not interfering with this merger.

POLICING THE POLICE

The crime was three-fold. It is a serious matter when strong young men descend from a van and attack a group of boys in the street. When the attackers are police officers the offence is far graver, and if the policemen who attacked those schoolboys in the summer of 1983 had been charged that same night, they would of course have merited far harsher sentences than if they had been mere football hooligans, or a racist gang or simply drunken louts out to make trouble just for the sake of it.

But they were not charged that night. This was because, as well as being hooligans and bullies, they were also liars and had colleagues prepared to lie for them. When the element of conspiracy is added, the first thought after the verdicts in the Holloway Road case is whether the five policemen did not get off fairly lightly.

The argument that they have also foregone their careers and their pensions is no more than the small change of the standard plea in mitigation. A more substantial argument against longer sentences, perhaps, is the shrewd suspicion that the policeman's lot in prison is not a happy one, certainly while the governors of Britain's prisons are probably in no position to be able to guarantee that they know what is going on in every corner of them.

The sentence is, however, secondary. The truism applies here that it is not so much the severity that matters; but the sure knowledge that the culprits will not get away with it. That, unfortunately, is the problem. In this case, they nearly did get away with it. And it took years for the case to come to court. Yet it was never in doubt, from the start, that the boys had been attacked, and that there were only a limited number of policemen who could have done it.

The sense of shame at Scotland Yard, and the sincerity of their efforts to get to the bottom of the matter, are not in doubt. Nor is the efficiency or fairness of investigating officers sent in when there are complaints. The simple fact is that the system did not work promptly - and delay has meant a significant loss of

prestige at a time when the police need all the public support they can get. The system nearly did not work at all. It was only when the new Police Complaints Authority came on the scene that there was a breakthrough, almost at a stroke.

So the case has significantly weakened the old argument that police, left to themselves, make the best investigators of allegations against policemen. A new procedure, which was due to come into force anyhow, ensures an independent element in inquiries. It is the Authority, not the police, who determine the course of investigations, even though detailed questioning is in the hands of police officers appointed by them.

There are, however, experienced criminal lawyers who have those investigative abilities as much as police officers, and who can acquaint themselves with any parts of police procedures they do not know. When there is particular public concern, as there was in this case, the Authority should entrust the job to them.

Trite though it may sound, the Holloway case should be a reminder that crime, not least street crime, cannot be reduced if a police force is known, even on isolated occasions, to hit people in the streets. We are never going to get back to the ideals, if they ever existed, of Dock Green, where wise, gruff old bobbies, meeting a crowd of youths coming away from a fair, would know how to exchange just the right few words of greeting to convey the message that the law is powerful, but genial and even-handed, and something you automatically turn to for the common good.

When boys, seeing a police van, run off in evidently justified terror, as they did that August night, it is evidence of not just bad policing but inefficient policing - of the hostility of those who have to be part of the fight against crime. The "street-credibility" of the police is not just an idealistic dream. It is a matter of hard, practical importance, and most policemen know that.

FOURTH LEADER

There is a man in Anchorage, Alaska, who has had an idea. No, not a mere idea; an idea. In that chilly, hilly State, there is a body of water called Glacier Lake, in which icebergs bob, broken off from the mountain glaciers that give the lake its name. This enterprising fellow went out one day, chipped off a chunk of ice, melted it, put the resultant water in bottles, slapped on a label giving its provenance, and began to sell it. What is more, the public began to buy it.

You never know. Few of us would have guessed that there would be a market for plain water among people who can get as much of it as they want by turning the tap in the kitchen sink; but it seems that there is no accounting for tastes, even when the commodity under discussion has no taste at all. Mr Mark Wilson (for that is our hero's name) now has a thriving export market as well as a domestic one, but there is no clue there; he sells abroad not to the parched regions of Middle East desert, but to Japan, and boasts that he is approaching 300 tons in sales to that country.

Work it out; everybody will recall the mnemonic by which we used to keep the formula in mind:

A pint of pure water
Weighs a pound and a quarter.

That means that Mr Wilson will shortly have unloaded 537,600 pint bottles of water on the Japanese. And remember that he makes no medicinal or other claims for his variety; plain water in bottles is what it is, and plain water in bottles is what he calls it.

Emerson was thought to have gone quite far when he said that thing about the man who makes a better mouse-trap than his neighbour. But Mr Wilson has gone not just one better, but two: he hasn't made anything, and there is no reason to suppose that his water is better than any other water.

Britain used to have men like that, selling sand to sheikhs and refrigerators to Eskimos. Surely the breed has not entirely died out? If not, there is one way in which they can go as far as Mr Wilson, and possibly farther. If he can put plain water in bottles, they can put plain air in tins. A gulp of guaranteed English air would comfort many an expatriate, and even at home there could well be a market for the stuff among marathon runners gasping as they come into the final stretch. Forward, entrepreneurs; there is a fortune awaiting you. Two fortunes, actually; after tinned air, there is always deep-frozen sunshine.

Doubts about airline merger

From the Director General of the Air Transport Users Committee
Sir, There is doubtless still a lot to be heard for and against the proposed British Airways and British Caledonian merger, but the following must be said at once.

BA already have a very dominant position throughout the whole of the scheduled service network served by UK airlines. The merger with BCal would substantially enhance that dominance. This might not necessarily be bad for the travelling public where the protection that competition affords would come from other mega-carriers on long-haul routes - not only those from the USA, but also from the Far East (although significantly the most effective UK long-haul competition, that on the London/Tokyo route, will be lost by this merger).

But on the short-haul and European routes we want more, not less, competition. Its merits have been adequately demonstrated in the recent survey of the Civil Aviation Authority on the effect of competition on the major domestic trunk routes since 1984 and can also be seen by what has occurred on certain European routes following some easing of the relevant bilateral agreements.

With the merger of BA and BCal the ability of the independents to provide that competition would be materially reduced and furthermore BA would assume a dominant position at the country's second major hub airport, Gatwick, similar to that which it already holds at Heathrow.

The user interest and the development of a sound competitive aviation industry in this country absolutely require that ways be found to reduce BA/BCal's threatened dominating influence on the domestic and short-haul European routes so as to allow the existing independents and the emergent scheduled airlines (i.e., Air Europe etc) not only to survive but to expand and offer choice to users.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BOTWOOD,
Director General,
Air Transport Users Committee,
129 Kingsway, WC2.

De minimis

From Mr Robin Parker
Sir, I find the term "a quantum leap", to mean "a giant leap", an irritating conflict between the physical and the verbal.

In the world of physics, the word quantum is uniquely reserved for the smallest possible change in a given quantity. Note in this context that, exactly 18 years ago this month, Neil Armstrong as a trained scientist did not speak of making quantum leaps off his lunar module; if he had, the movement would have been imperceptible to either him or us. And when Dr David Owen spoke in recent months about teachers deserving a quantum leap in pay, was he forgetful of the physics in his medical training?

Yours sincerely,
ROBIN PARKER,
43 Milestone Close,
Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Boost for beef

From Dr A. C. O'Sullivan
Sir, The total consumption of beef is rising in the UK. First-quarter consumption was up 4.7 per cent on the same period last year. While John Young (report, June 29) is correct in reporting a decline in the amount of beef eaten in the home, that is only to be expected because we are all eating more out of the home. Indeed, in restaurants, public houses and other eating establishments beefsteak is by far and away Britain's most popular food.

To that extent, the traditional roast is less popular today and the meat and livestock industry has been instrumental in directing farmers and butchers to the new market opportunities for beef presented by contemporary cooking methods, changing attitudes to diet and health, smaller family units and the way in which people shop. At this very moment, for example, MLC (Meat and Live-

Screening for Aids

From Dr John Seale and others
Sir, Routine testing of some hospital patients for antibodies to HIV (the Aids virus) which you suggest (leading article, July 3) would help to clarify the various means by which it is being transmitted and the rate of its spread into the general population.

Three female health-care workers infected with HIV in 1986 by minor contamination of their hands or face with blood on a single occasion were recently reported by the US Public Health Service. Two of them were detected only because they were blood donors and routinely checked every time they donated blood. Similarly a mother infected by her sick one-year-old son was discovered because she was a blood donor.

It was only the mass routine screening, already compulsory for all blood donors in the United States and western Europe, which picked out three of these four cases. This routine testing has provided compelling direct evidence, which would not otherwise have been available, of the real danger to nurses of infection by blood soiling their skin and mothers caring for their own sick children.

In the light of this new evidence the medical profession must now give the public a clear lead on

Tangled tale of council house sales

From Lord Donoughue
Sir, I have refrained from joining the correspondence on the role of the Downing Street Policy Unit because the original article by Mr Lipey (June 26) was unworthily personal and, as Sir John Hoskyns's letter of July 2 devastatingly demonstrates, inaccurate.

However, Sir Peter Lazarus's intervention (July 15) on the issue of selling council houses calls for a response. It is certainly true that he personally took a commendably positive approach during visits to the unit in Downing Street. But those were only two of many meetings there to consider this initiative: in Cabinet Committee, in official committees and in personal discussions with the Prime Minister.

It soon emerged that there was strong opposition from within the Department of the Environment, mainly at ministerial and special adviser level. I have never said or believed that this originated with Anthony Crosland, with whom I had several private discussions at the time. But, unfortunately, Mr Crosland in Cabinet Committee did not display the full enthusiasm for the principle which Sir Peter Lipey, as Crosland's aide, often expressed sharp political hostility on this issue, which is why Joe Haines (letter, July 8) did not actually convey a "somewhat misleading" view.

Sir Peter admits he knew nothing of the political dimension - and that was decisive - and states that the only reservations held by the department were "on timing and methods". Yet which alternative and so far unrevealed methods to sell council houses did they prefer? The amendments which officials proposed were gratefully accepted and incorporated in the policy unit scheme. What timing did they prefer (please Lord make us virtuous, but not yet)? Why then did the department formally announce its rejection of council house sales in the ministerial statement in 1978?

It is one of the hazards of writing history as a witness that rarely does anybody ever see the whole picture - therefore I explicitly described my recent memoirs, as "a selective view" from Downing Street. Perhaps somebody will now reveal, since the Prime Minister certainly and the Environment Department allegedly were so enthusiastic (and the

Decisive match

From Mr H. B. Alvarez
Sir, "On This Day" (July 3) discussed the relative skills of those two champions, Mlle Suzanne Lenglen and Mrs Helen Wills Moody in 1926. The article posed the question, who would win a match between them.

I have just been reading *From Baku to Baker Street*, by Flora Solomon and Barnett Litvinoff (Collins), and on page 130 it says a match - "The Great Match" - was played, apparently in 1928, at Monte Carlo. Result, a win for Mlle Lenglen, 6-3, 6-4.

Yours faithfully,
H. B. ALVAREZ,
135 Abbotshury Road, W14, July 15.

stock Commission) is teaching hundreds of butchers new cutting methods for beef, methods which considerably increase its appeal.

Our advice on lean beef is equally clear, namely, that a considerable market for lean meat is developing which farmers and butchers should seek to supply not by switching exclusively to lean cattle and meat but by extending the choice of beef offered to the public.

As for meat from alternative production systems, only in the last few days has MLC, in conjunction with Food From Britain, published the first in-depth analysis of this market. We conclude that the production of this type of meat should be encouraged since it, too, adds to consumer choice.

Yours sincerely,
A. C. O'SULLIVAN,
Meat and Livestock Commission, PO Box 44, Queensway House, Bletchley, Buckinghamshire.

testing. We suggest, first, that all hospital patients whose blood is tested for any purpose should also be screened automatically for HIV antibodies, provided that they have not already recently tested negative.

Second, hospital personnel who have direct contact with patients, including all doctors and nurses, should be tested routinely each year. Individuals should be informed of the result of their tests and the public health services be notified.

It is right, and it is fair, that doctors and government should have imposed routine testing and notification on all blood donors for nearly two years, but meanwhile have failed to introduce routine testing for the rest of the population?

Yours truly,
JOHN SEALE,
HUW BEVAN GRIFFITH (Frenchay Hospital, Bristol),
E. N. COOMES (St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham),
CHRISTOPHER EARL (Middlesex Hospital and National Hospital for Nervous Diseases),
LESLIE V. LAY (Royal Infirmary, Sunderland),
REGINALD MURLEY,
CELIA OAKLEY (Hammersmith Hospital),
D. E. B. POWELL (Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend),
RONALD B. PRIDIE (Harefield Hospital),
IVOR SLEE (Charing Cross Hospital and St Stephen's, Fulham),
78 Harley Street, W1.

Curriculum cut to the core

From Dr P. V. Jones
Sir, Baroness Hooper confirmed last week that the national "core" curriculum will take up some 80-90 per cent of the timetable. That will leave a few periods a week to cater for every subject debarrd from the "core".

My own concern for Latin may illustrate the dangers. If it is deemed "not allowable" in years one to three, it will be restricted to those willing to begin it in year four and take a GCSE in year five - i.e., the linguistically most gifted. Small classes will result; the cry for "economies" will follow; and Latin will end in our schools.

At a time when your own columns have carried important testimony to the advantages that some Latin can bring, especially to less able pupils, when A-level numbers in classical subjects have risen by 20 per cent in the last seven years, and when universities have nearly 7,000 students taking some form of classics (more than was the case 15 years ago), a decision to cut away the very roots of the subject from our schools would give the electoral trumpet calls of "freedom" and "choice" (let alone supply and demand) a thinly hypocritical squeak.

Yours etc,
PETER V. JONES,
The University of Newcastle upon Tyne,
Department of Classics,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
July 11.

The key to energy

From Mr S. F. Steward
Sir, Your Energy Correspondent suggests (July 15) that the Central Electricity Generating Board will remain intact, with some increased responsibilities, after privatization. I am not sure that the secretary of state would be wise to adopt this solution.

The privatization of electricity supply presents many problems, but it also promises important benefits - the reduction of public borrowing, wider share-ownership, removal of Government intervention and the introduction of competition. In the distribution of electricity there can be no internal competition between areas, but competition with gas will intensify when both industries are in private hands.

It is only in generation that real competition can be introduced into electricity supply and this means splitting the CEBG into two or more generating companies. Only in this way can there be a choice of major generating sources, in addition to supplies from France and industrial concerns.

The key to this is the "grid", the common carrier of electric power, and if there is to be uninhibited competition this national transmission system must be separate from the generating companies.

A solution would be to retain the "grid" as a public utility, on the lines of the 1927 Central Electricity Board, thus providing the means of effective competition as well as safeguarding the national interest.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY STEWARD
(Chairman, South Western Electricity Board, 1948-55),
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1.

Soviet dissidents

From Mrs Natalya Rubinshtein
Sir, I would like to make clear that my article, "Glasnost: a battle half won" (July 1), was a response to a "Statement to the press" by Resistance International, a group of prominent Soviet dissidents from the Soviet Union, which was published by *The Times* on March 16, rather than a general description of the attitudes of Russian émigrés towards the present policy of liberalisation in the Soviet Union.

The "third wave" of émigrés from the USSR includes tens of thousands of people whose attitudes towards the present changes range from extreme mistrust to warmest sympathy.

Yours sincerely,
NATALYA RUBINSHEIN,
32 Audley Road, NW4,
July 14.

Sauce for gander

From Mr D. M. Sherwood
Sir, According to your paper today (July 14) Miss Jo Richardson has been appointed as women's spokesperson in the Shadow Cabinet. Surely in equity there should also be a man's spokeswoman.

Yours faithfully,
D. M. SHERWOOD,
15 Royal York Crescent,
Clifton, Bristol, Avon.

ON THIS DAY

July 18 1859
The Tory government resigned in June, 1859, and the Liberals returned, led by Palmerston. A leading article concluded that "the period of party politics is past in England, but this meeting is not in consonance with that opinion... I have always been of opinion that party government and Parliamentary government were identical - no party, no Parliament; because consider what must be the constitution of this country, where, if not the supreme power, at least a great proportion of the authority of the State is entrusted to the two Houses of Parliament, amounting in number to not much more than 1,000 individuals! If you were for a moment to attempt to realize what must be the position of this country if there were no combination and no co-operation among those individuals, you would at once see that there could be no barrier against the authority of the Crown or the ambition of a Minister, and that it is only by party that a Parliamentary government becomes indeed practicable... When you read, as you frequently do, that the line of demarcation between parties has ceased, and that party principles and party feeling no longer exist, you may depend upon it that some attempt is about to be made against the liberty of the country, or some important interest in it. At a moment when party is decided to behave us to consider what has been the difference between our famous Parliament, which has so long existed, and those national assemblies which many of us have seen arise and disappear like exhalations amid scenes of continental disturbance. Their bases have been broad enough, their elements have been popular enough, the members of them have been returned, not only by an extended but by universal suffrage, yet they never took any deep root in the country - the only reason was that in those assemblies party did not exist, while in the Parliament of England party has existed. (Cheers)... a great party is a fact which history can alone produce. You must have not merely great property to support it, and that, also, generally diffused; you must not only represent the predominant opinion of the hour, but you must possess traditional influence, and that cannot be attained except by the experience and the achievements not merely of years, but of centuries, by those opinions, sentiments, and even prejudices which can only be collected and established in a course of time; and by the recollection of what men have done who have been united together, and what fluctuations of fortune and political vicissitude they have undergone in vindication of some great cause with which they have all their lives sympathized... It is quite impossible that a vigorous and direct policy can be maintained in this country, unless the principles of party are recognized as one of the first bonds of public life... I hold that there are two parties in this country, and only two. There may be many opinions prevalent there may be many noisy sections, but when you come to the question of the possession of power you find practically that there are only two parties...

July 18-24, 1987

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

A COOK FOR EVERY SEASON

Next week
Frances Bissell
becomes *The
Times* Cook.
Robin Young
assesses her
contribution to
the new mood
in British
cuisine



Frances Bissell is more like the average housewife than any other cookery writer in Britain. For a start, she does not like her kitchen. It is she says, with jovial distaste, a cowboy developer's job which came with the flat, and so thoroughly mediocre that when publishers come to photograph her they are astonished at its modesty.

Mrs Bissell is, it must be added, quite unlike the average housewife, too. That is because she is a perfectionist, a cook of originality and flair, and gifted with perfect taste. It is not the average housewife's honest claim that she has eaten anything really out of season only once (strawberries from Mexico) and then not enjoyed it. Neither does the average housewife keep diaries which are all about cooking and entertaining, nor read cookbooks like novels, nor take holidays which are planned entirely around the restaurants and vineyards to be visited and dishes researched; nor positively welcome the opportunity to cook with friends.

So from her impractical galley kitchen in a top-floor flat in Hampstead, where a huge and largely unused double-oven robs her of much needed storage and work space, Frances Bissell has won herself the reputation of being the best private cook in Britain. Invitations to her table are the hottest ticket in town, because the dining room is so small that she and her American wine-enthusiast husband, Tom, can entertain only one other couple at a time.

Now the private cook is definitively going public. Next week she dons her toque and whites and appears as *The Times* Cook, starting a weekly column which could have a profound and lasting influence on the way people in this country eat. Frances Bissell, people who take an interest in food are convinced, is the best news since the public went off sliced bread.

She is a true amateur of cooking, an enthusiast for food, a woman who cooks not to impress but to

eat. Already, with two books and a number of articles published, she is compared with the two women (significantly, both are similarly self-taught cooks) who have had the greatest influence on British cookery since the Second World War: Elizabeth David and Jane Grigson.

It is the latter who, along with Paul Levy of *The Observer* and catering consultant Victor Ceserani, can claim to have discovered Frances Bissell. They were the judges for the 1983 *Observer* Mouton Cadet menu competition. Scanning the entries, they quickly recognized that Mrs Bissell was a likely winner. In the cook-off she turned out to be a star. Jane Grigson says: "Her dishes were simple, elegant with original touches. She cooked with good-humoured confidence. Her food tasted even better than we

had expected". Oddly enough, the year before Mrs Bissell had been a finalist but not the eventual winner. "The judges must have had indigestion", Paul Levy harrumphs.

The victory launched Frances Bissell on a new career that was, she insists, totally unexpected. Indeed, it is Levy's boast that every one of his Mouton Cadet competition winners has gone on to make a career (and some of the runners-up as well). But none, he insists, has ever been as good as Frances.

Over the victory luncheon at Chateau Mouton-Rothschild, Mrs Bissell let fall that for 10 years she had kept diaries of all the meals she had cooked, using a French housewife's agenda with a page for every day in which to note prices, notes about the cookery, and observations on the wines which accompanied the food.

Mrs Bissell still keeps her food books. The reaction of friends to them, she says, tells her a lot about them. Those who are as passionately interested in food as she is think it wonderful, and worry why they had not thought of it themselves. Others think it a strange and time-wasting preoccupation. A doctor was concerned that her obsession with food, as revealed in the diaries, could be symptomatic of something serious.

Mrs Bissell does not see it as an obsession. "Food is a pleasure to be shared. It is an expression of yourself. It takes time, energy, imagination and money, but then so do most serious hobbies. For me it was the one area in which I could be creative."

Jane Grigson's reaction, in any case, was immediate. Frances Bissell should write a book, and

she hauled the competition winner off to Chateau & Windus forthwith. "I had never thought of it before," Frances Bissell says. "I did not think anybody else would be interested."

Frances is a cheerful, giggly and utterly unpretentious person, for whom cooking is second nature. Born in Yorkshire, she moved about a good deal as a child. Two years were spent in South Africa, where her father was a sales representative. Both her parents were good cooks. Her father always shared in the cooking, and could bake his own bread.

Her first-form domestic science class "taught" the young Frances how to make vegetable soup (a few vegetables chopped into identically sized dice and boiled in a very large pan of water until soft). She already knew better. "I came from a family who take soup very seriously." She gave up domestic science and switched to needlework.

After leaving school, at the age of 19, she went to Nigeria by Voluntary Service Overseas to teach English and French. "We ate a very unbalanced diet. 'We ate plantains with yams and then yams with plantains'."

Studying modern languages at Leeds University brought her a very French year at the Ecole Normale d'Instituteurs in Albi, deep in the cassoulet country, where the chef earned more than the principal; and while he would not talk to her about cooking or give her any recipes, he would allow her to watch. "It was there

that I first realized that I had a really good memory for flavours and tastes, and that I could build up a bank of information about how textures and flavours were brought into a dish."

All the early influences on her cooking were French — Albi, Elizabeth David's descriptions of French country and provincial cookery; and Jane Grigson's accounts of going to market in France. In Germany, where she studied for three months, she took a job as a charwoman to pay her way, and it being 1968, joined student demonstrations.

After leaving Leeds ("with a degree of sorts — a third, I think") she joined the British Council, for whom she has worked in various capacities ever since. For the most part, her professional career has been well removed from her culinary hobby, though a spell as regional officer for southern Europe did enable her to broaden her eating experience a little with trips to Spain, Portugal, Italy, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Greece.

"It was also fascinating, when we were in a mixed commission of cultural officials, to talk with, say, members of the Turkish delegation, for whom food was a very important part of their culture, while it hardly featured in ours."

Frances Bissell, Jane Grigson says, "exemplifies the way that our new enthusiasm for food could take us in Britain. Since Elizabeth David published *Mediterranean Cooking* in 1950, we have opened our kitchens — not always wisely — to many new influences. Frances Bissell shows how they can be quietly absorbed into a new compatibility."

Her notion of new British cooking does not exclude foreign

cases were made with rice flour, not wheat?

The new British cooking, she says, means that people are no longer simply imitating what people do elsewhere. It is like the English language — open to all sorts of influences, adopting and assimilating contributions from all over the world, but still English.

Mrs Bissell is a great believer in seasonality. She even changes her perfume with the season — Penhaligon's bluebell scent in spring, Diorissimo in summer, Joy or Calèche in autumn and winter. But there is no mystique about it, simply the good practical ground that she prefers things fresh and full of flavour. With improved systems of transport and modern methods of horticulture, she has the evidence in her diaries that seasons are steadily extending.

She does not have a freezer, or a microwave, or come to that, a television set. She does most of her cooking on an ordinary gas hob and an electric steamer, and dreams of replacing her double-oven legacy with a small convection oven, "which is all I need". If she has a weakness, she says, it is that she does not like caraway seeds. An indulgence: white chocolate.

She acknowledges her debt to a string of previous cookery writers. Elizabeth David, Jane Grigson, Claudia Roden, Marcella Hazan, Anton Mosimann are prominent among contemporaries. Among the historical figures she gives Eliza Acton pride of place over the plagiarist Hannah Glasse or the workaholic Mrs Beeton. Her favourite domestic economist is the later Victorian Mrs A. B. Marshall (strong on ice creams), and she also loves the scientifically succinct Edouard de Pomiane and Hermann Senn.

But she has never cooked by following other people's recipes ("except with cakes, where the chemical balance has to be precise, so you do have to know what quantities to use"), and she does not want anyone following her recipes slavishly, either. When ingredients may be hard to find for shoppers who do not have the Finchley Road Waitrose to fall back on, she tries to suggest alternatives. Using watercress instead of sorrel does not produce the same dish, but it can be just as delicious. Best of all, she would like people to make their own adaptations, and innovations.

If Frances Bissell does herald a new age of British cookery, it will be the era in which British cooks, well supplied with fine fresh produce from small producers, begin to exercise their culinary imagination to the full.

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A passage through India
with Elizabeth Jane
Howard — page 14

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FATHERS AND SONS

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after the novel by Ivan Turgenev

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FRESH SUMMERTIME DISHES

Until July 24 Frances Bissell is cooking summer food for breakfast, lunch and dinner in the Coffee House of the London Hotel International, 1 Hamilton Place, Hyde Park Corner, London W1 (01-409 3131). Here are some of the ideas she has introduced on menus which are devised daily to take advantage of the best of what is available from the markets:

FOR BREAKFAST

- Light and puffy giant croissants filled with scrambled eggs and tarragon, or smoked salmon and cream cheese.
- A very mild kedgeree with smoked haddock, salmon, and smoked salmon, chopped up eggs and "hardly any" curry.
- Tomato ice with vodka — a sort of frozen Bloody Mary morning

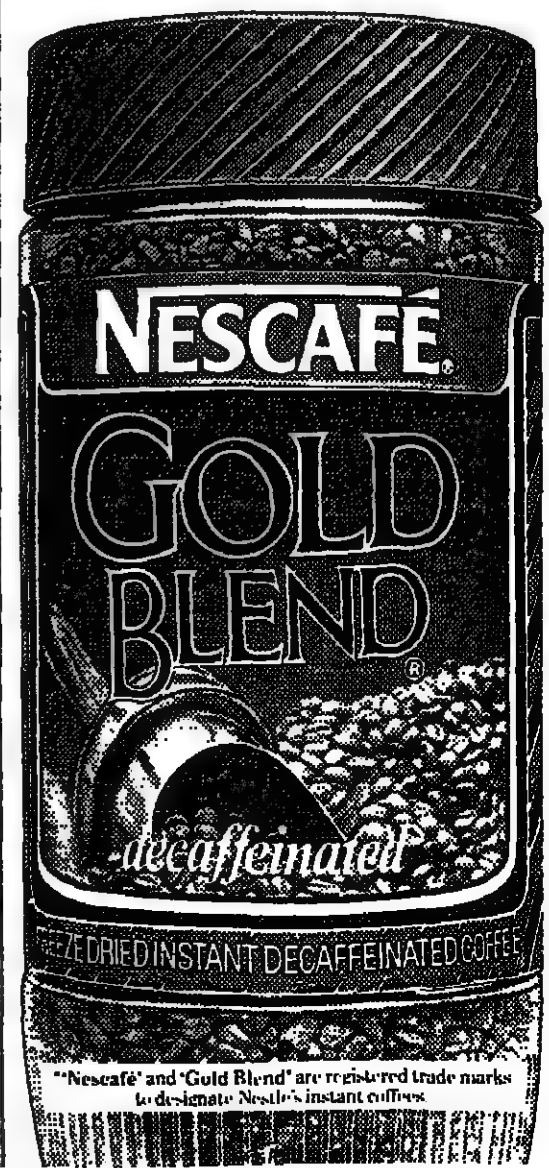
- Bacon and egg pie — a very homey dish in which the pastry crust is filled with bacon, eggs and chunks of sausage and topped with a lid so that the whole breakfast is in a single container — "the sort of thing we took on picnics when I was a child".

FOR LUNCH AND DINNER

- Carrot and peach soup — "It's based on my fennel and apple soup. You choose vegetable and fruit of complementary colours and flavours. The others I am working on are tomato and redcurrant, and melon and cucumber. You can serve them hot or cold."
- Salmon and watercress terrine — chunks of salmon through a pale blend of watercress and cream, with minutely diced red peppers to add points of colour.
- Raw salmon, left-to marinated

- in olive oil with thinly sliced onion and capers — "I prefer it to gravadax because you keep more of the flavour of the salmon. It's quite different from ceviche, in which the acid completely changes the nature of the flesh so that it seems to me you might as well have cooked it."
- Monkfish cassoulet, made to the classic recipe with white beans, thyme, garlic and onions but substituting fish for meat — "I think monkfish has the right firmness and body for it, and I may use some tomato coulis, and if I can get it little bits of salt cod to use instead of bacon."
- Chicken in lemon gin and tarragon sauce — "I steep the zest of lemons in gin for two or three weeks to produce a fragrant, pale yellow spirit that is good for spicing up the interest in

Only one
decaffeinated
coffee
has the taste of
Nescafé Gold Blend.*



WEEKEND BREAK



Cottage industry: Sudeley Castle woos the tourists to its holiday homes set in the grounds

The art of survival

Those who bemoan the descent of the state home business into gimmickry can find a healthy antidote to amusement parks and tacky souvenirs by making for the Cotswolds and Sudeley Castle.

Sudeley has had to become part of the tourist trade to pay the bills, and has met this necessity with good grace and the minimum concession to commercialism.

Take the craft workshops, which opened this year. When space in the old stable block became vacant, Sudeley's owners invited in craftspeople from the adjoining village of Winchcombe. The seven workshops are home to makers of stained glass and marbled paper to leather workers and wood turners. Visitors can watch the experts at work, chew the cud with them and buy their products. Traditional skills are being kept alive, and there is a bit of money in it as well.

Still on the theme of picking up the past and working it into the present, Sudeley's 19th-century joinery is being pressed into service to perpetuate another craft — hand-painted furniture.

The medieval sport of falconry has also been revived at Sudeley and a young falconer in residence, Gary Cope, puts on flying displays.

Katherine Parr would probably have approved. She is Sudeley's most famous resident, the sixth and last wife of Henry VIII, and she is buried in the chapel. Tudor royals seemed to like Sudeley. Lady Jane Grey, the nine-day queen, was a visitor, as, three times during her reign, was Elizabeth I.

But in the 17th century, to quote Marie Lloyd's song, Sudeley was one of the ruins that Cromwell knocked about a bit. Sudeley's punishment for taking the wrong side in the English Civil War was that

Peter Waymark discovers how a crumbling old English castle became a craft and holiday centre



Artist Kate Morgan at work in one of the castle craft workshops

much of the splendid castle created in the 1440s was demolished. The buildings that did survive were left to rot.

It was a sturdy Victorian family, the Dents, who put Sudeley back on its feet. They engaged an eminent architect, Sir Gilbert Scott, to work on the structure and they filled the house with treasures. These include paintings by Rubens, Hogarth, Constable and Turner; not bad for a small private gallery.

The key figure was an MP's daughter, Emma Brocklehurst, who married into the family and took on Sudeley as her life's work. She saw the restoration through and

amassed a formidable collection of furniture and works of art. Her autograph collection runs from Henry VIII to 19th-century notables like Tennyson and Abraham Lincoln.

The Dent-Brocklehurst family still owns Sudeley. In the 1970s, BBC television used the castle as a location for its *Trollope* serial. *The Pallisers*, and a couple of films have been shot there. But country houses cannot live by television alone and Sudeley was gradually turned over to visitors.

A recent initiative is holiday cottages. Some are conversions of the estate's Victorian outbuildings. You stay in the forge or the paper mill or the engine house, enjoying a combination of Cotswold style, central heating, fitted kitchens and colour TV.

Other cottages have been purpose built, but still in honey-coloured Cotswold stone. Together, in a quiet cul-de-sac, the old and the new form a self-contained village, enclosed by trees and flanked on one side by the river Isbourne. Bread, milk and a tea tray greet you on arrival.

As a footnote, last year a PG Wodehouse enthusiast, Norman Murphy, published a book, *In Search of Blandings*. In it he suggested that Sudeley may have been the inspiration for Blandings Castle. The result, in 1987, is a series of "Blandings Weekends". Perhaps Sudeley has got itself a gimmick after all.

TRAVEL NOTES

Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire (0242 802308). The castle is open daily until October, noon-5pm; grounds 11am-5.30pm. Weekly rental for the holiday cottages is from £95 to £380, depending on size of accommodation and time of year.

Nigel Andrew has a barrel of fun at the Bass Museum in Burton upon Trent where you can try the brew

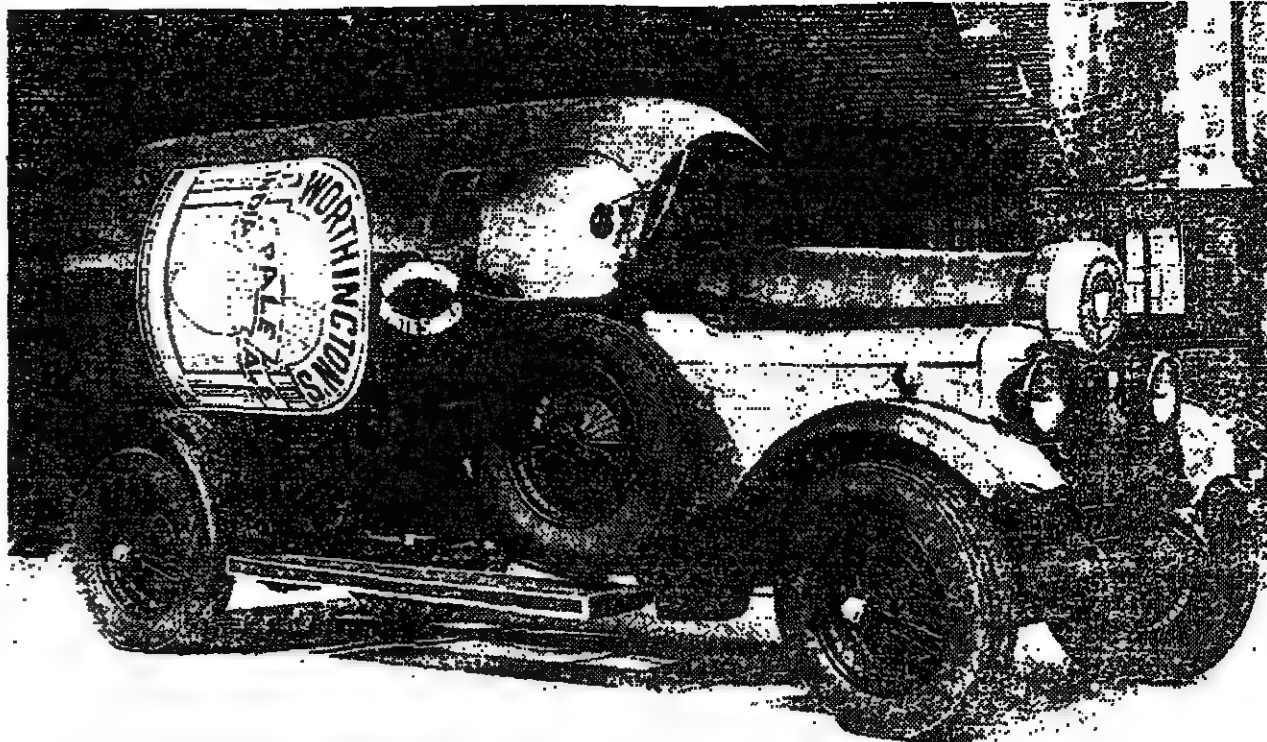
Beer is a drink with a history as long as civilization itself. For an agreeable crash course in the subject, the place to visit is the Bass Museum in Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire.

They've been brewing in Burton since medieval times. The gymnasium in the water makes for particularly good beer and by the end of the 18th century, Burton was becoming famous for it.

William Bass, who set up in business with a £500 lottery win, was in at the beginning. Under his son and subsequent generations, the Bass empire grew to enormous size. Its Red Triangle and Red Diamond were the first registered trademarks. Bass made sure of this by sending an old Irish employee down to London to spend the night on the Register Office steps.

The museum, which tells the story of Bass and brewing, is housed in former engineering workshops. But its style is bang up-to-date. There are video presentations, elaborate mock-ups with implausible mousetraps and dummies, and a well thought-out and informative arrangement throughout. The guides, steeped in brewery lore, are exceptionally friendly.

Upstairs is a remarkable working model of central Burton as it was on the morning of October 10, 1921. This huge exhibit is accurate down to the smallest detail — a fire being



Vintage vehicle: a rare survivor of five bottle-shaped cars made in the 1920s by Daimler for brewers at a cost of £1,300 each

attended by the Bass Fire Brigade, housewives hanging out their washing, children at play in the schoolyard, even a cow taking a walk in the High Street. Through all this frozen bustle run 12 trains and a tram, all working to a timetable.

Downstairs is the Glass and Barrel Bar, a faithful recreation of an Edwardian taproom, complete with busy barmaid pulling a pint, and a little girl holding up a jug. There are spittoons on the floor, a polyphon — a kind of proto-jukebox — and all the brassy abundance of the time. Several pub games are there for the playing, and when I visited, the rattle of skittles competed with the jangling of the polyphon.



Glass and Barrel Bar: a faithful recreation of an Edwardian pub

Outside, vintage vehicles are parked, the most striking being the famous bottle-shaped car. Only five of these were made — at a cost of £1,300 each in 1920s money!

This one's a Worthington "bottle", but that brewery became part of the Bass empire in 1927.

One shed houses a massive, gleaming Robey steam engine, and next door is the model brewery, used for limited-edition ales. In the stables you should find some at least of the Bass shire horses — Captain, Imperial, Majestic and Wellington — magnificent beasts, snorting quietly at the visitors.

Gentlemen may use the ornate Edwardian convenience next to the reconstructed railway dock with its "saddle-back" loco, fancy directors' coach and diesel shunting engine — remnants of the largest private railway in Europe. Bass bitter

from the pump is to be had in the tap room, and good Midlands lunches are served in the restaurant.

As for Burton itself, all is not grimy red-brick by any means. There are some superb Victorian buildings — the grand town hall and the cathedral-sized St Paul's church, and, tucked away in Hunter Street, is Bodley's brilliant St Chad's. Down by the river, right in the centre of town, is a marvelous surprise — a great peaceful expanse of water-meadows.

TRAVEL NOTES

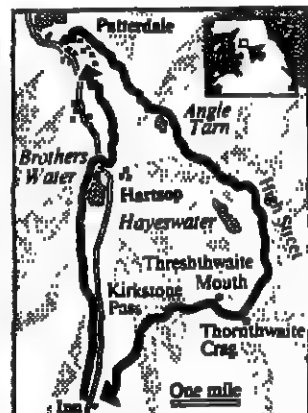
The Bass Museum, Horningwood Street, Burton upon Trent, is open daily, 10.30am-4.30pm. Adult £1.20, child or OAP 50p. Tel: 0283 45301.

Why I'll take the high street

The Kirkstone Pass road between Windermere and Ullswater seems to form a barrier to many walkers. More than once I have walked on the High Street, meeting few others, while queues build up to see popular sights farther west.

But I'd gladly part with a ticket for Striding Edge in exchange for another turn at emerging from a Patterdale bog, or generating the heat of the climb on a frosty March morning.

From Patterdale, take the road across the beck and road behind the houses. Wainwrights will know, when the path branches, to take the lower one without the pass. When you turn your back



on Patterdale, your way forward is marked by cairns and you cannot miss the route from here.

Angle Tarn is always a surprise, a plate of pewter, copper, lead or lambwood depending on the weather. To the west, you have a privileged view of what everyone else is swarming over. On top, a

smooth expanse lies between crags tumbling down to Haweswater and Haywater, and we take the footsteps of the Romans to the trig point.

There is no trouble in reaching Threthwaite Crag with its maze-cairns: on the other hand, the drop and climb through Threthwaite Mouth is like negotiating the side of a house. An easy path leads unerringly to the Kirkstone Pass Inn, which is noisy, busy... and the only place for miles around.

If you do have to walk back to Patterdale, a track leads off the busy road after three-quarters of a mile; this may be used as far as Brothers Water, where the escape route takes the opposite side of the valley.

Map 90, or the NE and SE Lakeland Outdoor Leisure maps, and/or Wainwright's *Far Eastern Fells*.

Iain Liddell

IN THE GARDEN

Dying craft of growing your own

Walled kitchen gardens are deeply evocative places, yet all but a handful are now turned to other uses. As one who derives as much pleasure from her fruit and vegetables as from flowers, I was thrilled to hear there was a working garden at Cottesbrooke in Northamptonshire which had been in continuous cultivation for more than four centuries.

The present head gardener, Doug Breton, has been a gardener since he left school and now, in his early fifties, has a unique combination of experience and skill in a very special kind of horticulture that is dying out.

Four years, during which he provided a continuous range of fruit and vegetables for his

Francesca Greenoak talks to the expert head gardener at a country house about the secrets of growing first-class fruit and vegetables

energetic and discriminating employer at the Hall, have come to a sad end with the death of her ladyship. He has since lost five of his six staff and the future of this great kitchen garden is now extremely uncertain.

Already part of the garden is overgrown, but with the help of his assistant, Ken, he is keeping the rest as orderly as possible. He showed me greenhouses full of orchids, scented geraniums, many other unusual decorative plants. Elise has hybridized himself, and fine figs, peaches and melons.

As I followed him between the vegetable and fruit beds, through the vinery and the other glasshouses, he explained his ideas and methods, with something interesting to observe on almost every subject we discussed.

In the large onion beds, those raised from seed were as forward as those grown from sets — "but seed onions always have better roots". In about six weeks they will be lifted and laid out to ripen, a most important process because they will not store well or last the winter unless properly ripe.

Doug tries a number of varieties of fruit and vegetables to obtain continuity and quality. He picked out the cabbage Spring Hero for



praise: "very productive — a beautiful, white, hard cabbage, sweet tasting, and it makes wonderful coleslaw." Out of the rhubarbs, he has selected Champagne and Glaskins Perpetual, which he has raised from seed, and he grows half a dozen or so different strawberries, raspberries, currants and gooseberries to extend the season for fresh fruit.

He takes calculated risks with late crops. I am myself often tardy in sowing, but I would not previously have dared to try French beans as late as August. I have, however, been converted from my double lines of runner beans to the wigwam arrangement that is better at resisting late summer gales. The knack is to set your circle of poles firmly upright into the soil to a depth of 18in or so, then to arch them in and secure them in the centre, keeping a tension

surely there is a place for his skills. If gardens were listed as sites of special interest with statutory protection, Cottesbrooke would surely rate as a protected species. As it is, we have Cottesbrooke. An English Kitchen Garden by Susan Campbell, photographs by Hugh Palmer (Century, £15.95), a fitting tribute and memorial to a historic garden and the people who worked there.

Doug is a gifted teacher, who once taught horticulture to prison inmates, and can describe difficult techniques clearly and logically. He sees his kind of gardening as a craft derived from good teaching, skill and experience, and feels he should be passing it on to gardeners of the future.

The basic economics of the kitchen gardens of the great estates are against him, but

surely there is a place for his skills.

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GARDENS TO VISIT

P=Plants for sale

TODAY AND TOMORROW

Yorkshire: 12 gardens in Great Ouseburn, off the B6265, between York and Boroughbridge; fee of £1 admits to all the gardens, children free; 11am to 5pm.

Devon: Crosspark, Holstock Cross, Northlew, 8m NW of Okehampton; 2-acre plantsman's garden; interest all year, bog, rock gardens, heath, herbaceous, many unusual plants; P: also open July 25, 26, 28m to 6pm.

Wiltshire: Hazlebury Manor, near Box, 5m SW of Chippenham, 3m NE of Bath, 3m N of Bradford on Avon; 8 acres, formal gardens, shrubs, herbaceous, rock garden, topiary; 2am to 6pm.

Dyfed: The Dingle, Crundale, take B4329 from Haverfordwest, turn right at Boat and Shoe, first right to Dingle Lane; 3 acres, plantsman's garden, rose garden, scree, herbaceous border, shrubs, water garden; peacocks; daily except Tuesdays, until October; 10am to 6pm.

TOMORROW

Ayrshire: Auchincruive, Ayr, 3m off A758; grounds of West of Scotland Agricultural College; herbaceous and shrub borders, plant display glasshouses; P: 2am to 6pm.

Durham: Headlam Hall, 2m N of Gainford, 5m W of Darlington; 3-acre formal garden, roses, vegetables; 2 to 6pm.

Roy Hay

GARDEN NEWS

This recent long dry spell has provided a good opportunity to try out a gadget called the Aquameter, which can be fixed to an outdoor tap to regulate the amount of water that goes to a sprinkler or simple hose.

It adjusts automatically to variations in water pressure to give you any volume of water, from a mere 10 gallons to 420 gallons. You can therefore water at night, or go out without having to worry about switching off the tap.

I'm not disposed towards excessive gardening gadgetry, but this is a very convenient device that prevents wasting water.

For those who get in knots

WEEKEND TIPS

For autumn salads. ● Prune deutzia, philadelphus and weigela, cutting back wood that has just flowered to newly developing shoots, and removing dead or weak growth. ● Try sowing a final crop of sugar peas to harvest in October or November.

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DRINK

Royal bouquet for Beychevelle



Royal tour: the Duke and Duchess of York in Bordeaux. The Duke and Duchess of York's recent visit to Beychevelle for the Fête de la Fleur represents a considerable coup for the Achille-Fouad family.

True, other Bordeaux châteaux have all had their turn at hosting the Fête, that great Médoc feast marking the flowering of the vine, but the royal visit represented the first of the younger generation.

Try as hard as I might, I could not get Madame Martine Achille-Fouad to expand on her earlier description of Beychevelle: "It's a very fine and distinguished wine, just like the other St Juliens."

It was clear from my tasting and visit to the impressive, cold stone flagged, below ground cellars, rare in the Médoc, and those above, that Madame Achille-Fouad was being becomingly modest about her wine. For the fourth growth St Julien Château Beychevelle has, for decades, deservedly held both a second growth reputation in England and fetched the prices to match.

In recent years too the quality of Beychevelle's wine, especially the splendid '85 and superb '86, has shone at

competitive London tastings of these vintages. On both occasions I rated fourth growth Beychevelle alongside that of another St Julien Duroc-laucaillois, one of the starriest of all second growths.

In the cellar I was intrigued to taste and compare the last seven vintages of Beychevelle, a property whose blend is normally two thirds Cabernet Sauvignon to one third Merlot with a dash of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot usually in the mix too.

The grivous '86 came first with its effusive cinnamon-like scents, a deep, solid, fruit-packed palate. Half a point behind was the '83, followed by the softer, more herbaceous and blackcurrant '85 and the perfumed, flowery '82.

Headings for the next rank was the '84, but nevertheless elegant '81 followed by the '80 and the soft, smoky but awkward, like other vintages from this year, '84.

Tanners, 26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury stock a good range of these wines.

Jane MacQuitty

Tasting Turkey's delights

Turkish dishes rank with French and Chinese as the three great cuisines of the world, says guest cook Jill Norman

Turkey is now the fashionable country for summer holidays, yet knowledge of the place and its culture is remarkably sketchy, partly because the Hellenic view of the history of the eastern Mediterranean, which we are brought up on, considers Turkey to be alien.

If you ask the prospective tourist what he or she expects to eat in Turkey, the answer will probably be: "Something like Greek or Lebanese food". In fact Turkish food is the finest food in the Middle East. It is worth going to Turkey just to eat.

In my opinion, Turkish food ranks with French and Chinese as one of the three great cuisines of the world. The secret of Turkish cooking lies in using excellent fresh ingredients and the long, patient preparation of many dishes.

The early Turks, who came from central Asia, ate kebabs, böreks (savoury pastries) and pilavs (from Persia). When they settled in Anatolia they had access to the fruits and vegetables of the Mediterranean, to olive oil, to fish, and they evolved a complex and elaborate yet delicate style of cooking, combining the new ingredients with their original fare.

Turkish cooking reached its peak of sophistication in the Ottoman period, when dishes were further refined, and in the imperial kitchens hundreds of specialist cooks were employed for particular foods or dishes.

Social and religious occasions have always been celebrated with specific dishes; food is an important part of Turkish culture.

The growth of the Ottoman empire saw the spread of Turkish food from the Yemen to the gates of Vienna, and today, if you travel overseas to Turkey, you become aware of the Turkish influence in the kitchen as soon as you reach the Balkans.

Whether or not you are off to Turkey this year, here are a few easy Turkish dishes to try. We start with a summer soup from southern and eastern Turkey, with the cooling taste of mint and a light spicing of paprika.

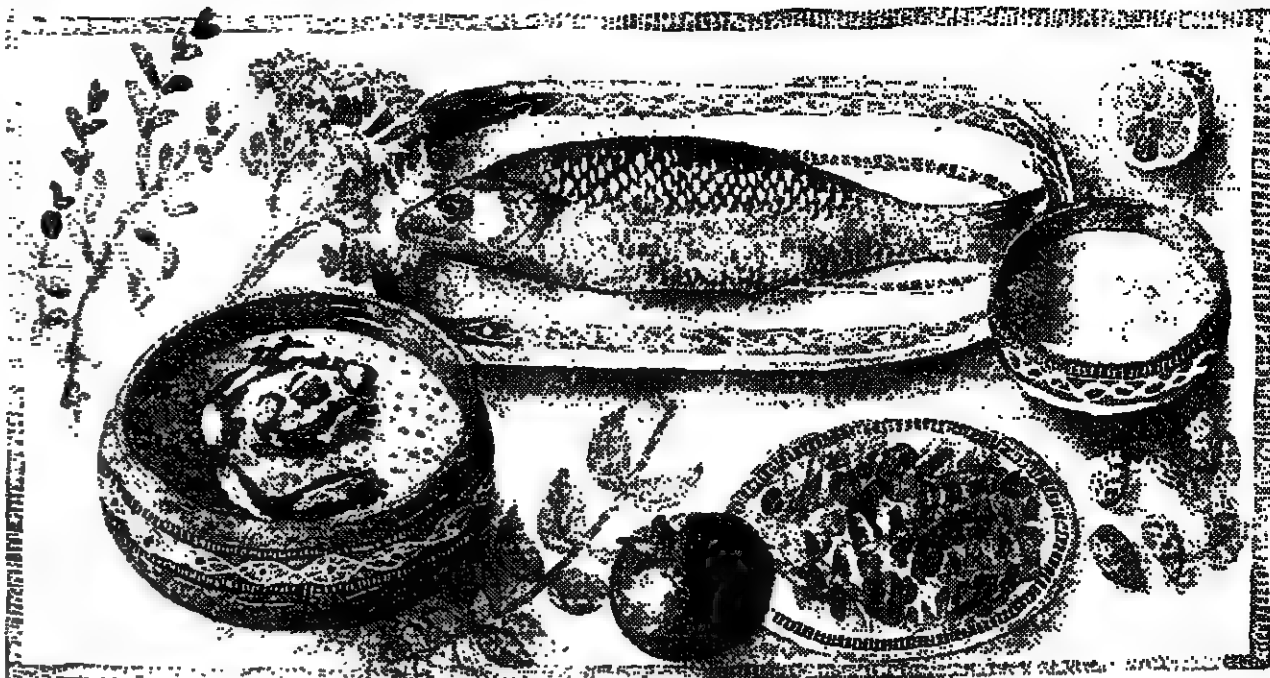
Yogurt soup
Serves 4
2 tablespoons rice
1 litre/1½ pints beef or chicken stock
salt

a handful of fresh mint leaves
250g/8oz thick yogurt
1 egg
1 tablespoon flour
30g/1oz butter
paprika

Wash the rice and cook it in the stock with a little salt for 15 to 20 minutes. Chop the mint leaves, not too finely, and add half to the soup. Beat the yogurt, egg and flour together and stir the mixture into the soup.

Keep the soup warm on very low heat — it mustn't boil — while you melt the butter and stir into it the remaining mint leaves and a teaspoon of paprika. Pour the seasoned butter into the soup — it will leave an attractive trail with green specks across the surface — and serve.

The long coastline of Turkey is bounded by four dif-



ferent seas: the Black Sea in the north connects through the Bosphorus with the Sea of Marmara in the north west; then passing through the Dardanelles one reaches the west coast which faces the Aegean, and the south coast borders the eastern Mediterranean.

Not surprisingly, the Turks have many excellent fish dishes; fresh anchovies, swordfish, mackerel and sea bass are all popular. I have used sea bass for this dish, but if you want a less expensive fish, grey mullet is a good choice.

Sea bass with almond tarator sauce
Serves 4
a sea bass weighing about 1kg/2lb after cleaning
4 tablespoons olive oil
juice of ½ lemon
salt
2 cloves garlic

fresh parsley
fresh thyme

Put the fish into an ovenproof dish that fits it well. Mix together the oil and lemon juice, crush the garlic with the salt, add it to the liquid and pour over the fish. Tuck in a few sprigs of the herbs and leave to marinate for 2-3 hours.

When you are ready to cook the fish, heat the oven to 200°C/400°F/gas mark 6. Turn the fish over in its marinade, cover the dish tightly with foil and bake for 30 minutes. Transfer the bass to a warm serving dish and serve the sauce separately.

Walnuts, pistachios and almonds are all important crops in Turkey and nuts are widely used in cooking. Any nuts can be used to make tarator sauce, but almonds give a particularly fine flavour to accompany the bass.

Almond tarator sauce
120g/4oz almonds

a thick slice of white bread with crusts removed
6 tablespoons olive oil
1 small clove garlic
salt
juice of ½ lemon

Blanch the almonds. Soak the bread in water and squeeze dry. Put both into the blender or food processor with the olive oil, the garlic crushed with a little salt and half a glass of water. Blend or process, adding a little more water if necessary, until you have a creamy but still thick sauce. Blend in the lemon juice and pour into a serving bowl.

A very simple dish that is popular throughout Turkey is green beans in olive oil. Don't use very thin French beans; the recipe works best with the larger beans, sometimes called bobby beans.

Green beans in olive oil
Serves 4

500g/1lb French beans
2 onions
2 large ripe tomatoes
6 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon sugar
salt

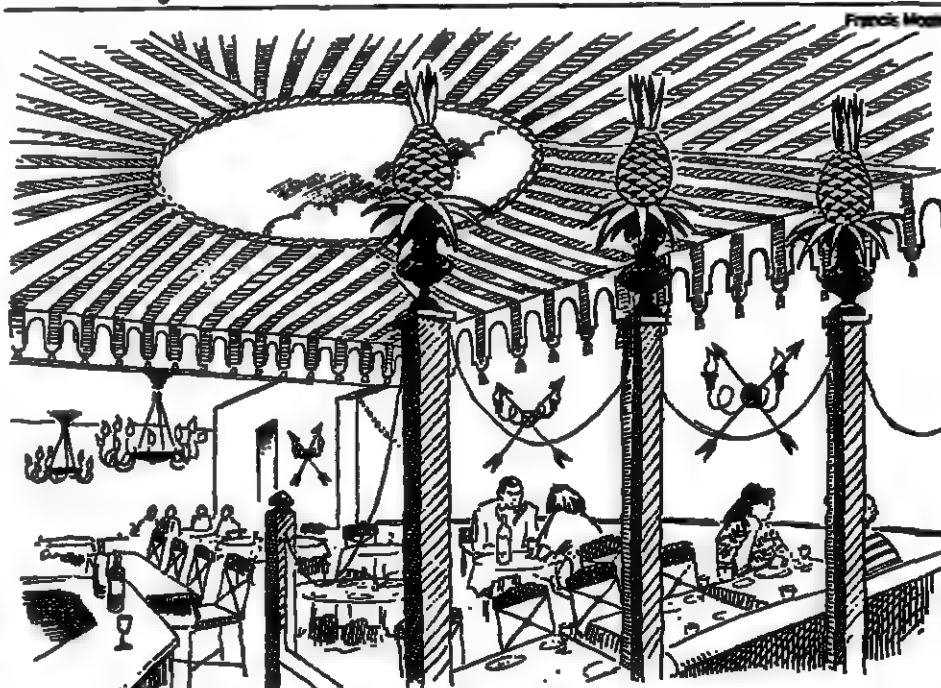
String the beans carefully and snap in two if they are very long. Slice the onions thinly; blanch the tomatoes for a minute, then remove the skins and chop the flesh.

Put the oil in a heavy pan with the vegetables, sugar and salt and pour over 150ml/¼ pint of water. Cover the pan and simmer gently for about 30 minutes until the beans are tender. If necessary, add a little more water during the cooking, but there should not be much liquid left in the pan at the end. Transfer the beans and their sauce to a dish and serve cool.

EATING OUT

Past glories and Gallic flavours

Jonathan Meades samples the French connection and the Italian job and some of the finest food outside France



waitress was on duty the night I went — is all right. The bill: £45 for two.

Despite its name, there is nothing in the least bit French about Gothique. However, Jensen's, Danish moniker notwithstanding, is quintessentially French, couldn't be more so. Its chef, Luc Ferrand, trained with Girardet, who, although Swiss, enjoys the reputation in France of being the world's "greatest chef", whatever that means.

The lessons that Ferrand has learned at the master's stove are to keep it simple, to execute the straightforward with precision, not to be afraid to eschew adornment. The result is a kind of cooking that is diligent, impeccably bourgeois, uncontaminated by the experiments of the recent past. Indeed, it almost puts the clock back to the age that Elizabeth David evoked for ever in *French Provincial Cooking*.

I was reminded particularly of this unsurpassable primer when I ate Ferrand's wonderful poulet de Bresse. It is prepared for two people,

roasted whole in a high oven, presented at table with its little metal *appellation contrôlée* tag, carved on a wooden block, kept hot in a dish above a clove of new garlic and a tiny reduction of its juices with white wine and cream.

This is the dish that thousands of Mrs David's readers must have expected to find in quiet, old fashioned, family hotels in St Amand and Argenton-sur-Creuse, the very heart of France. If they want to relive the experience or have never found it — not all little hotels had a gifted hand in the kitchen — they should head for Greek Street, having first armed themselves with a comforting wad of folding stuff.

Cooking of this quality never came cheap, though if you stick to the set menu you'll pay less than £50 for two. But the chicken lives on the carte, which is likely to cost at least half as much again.

What else do you get for your loot? Well, cossetting and assured service by an entirely French staff; an opulently

pretty room with repro Louis XV chairs, Watteau-style prints, swags, electric light fittings just like the ones they had in pre-revolutionary France. Back by the yard and a bulging basket of *cochonilles* — mountain hams, sausages and so on.

These are most copiously served, along with smoked goose and gherkins, and were of special quality. Just as Bresse chicken reminds one that most chickens, with the exceptions of boiling fowl and a few corn-fed, free-range birds, are tasteless, so does *charcuterie* such as this emphasize the fact that we are normally served the third rate.

There are other treats to be had, such as a starter of *foie gras*, lightly fried, with smoked salmon and a hazelnut oil salad; well made sorbets; delicious canapés, including a pastry filled with anchovy cream; very bitter truffles and candied peel. A *gratin* of fruits with a sabayon sauce was less interesting than an earlier fruit, a pear poached in vinegar that was served with the *foie gras*.

The wines are marked up

surprisingly modestly for a place of this standard. There are half a dozen or so regional *petits vins* at less than a tanner and a mighty list that culminates in a '45 Cheval Blanc for £300. I would advise against this half of that vintage had to be pastured. For a twentieth of the sum we drank a fine '82 Côte de Beaune from Auxey Duresse.

Vaseo and Piero's Pavilion was, along with its distinctive woodcut posters, one of the peripheral losses occasioned by the closing down of the Academy Cinema in Oxford Street. The restaurant, decorated in Festival of Britain Directoire by Angus McBean, had remained unchanged for 30 years. It has now reopened a hundred yards from its previous site, in Poland Street.

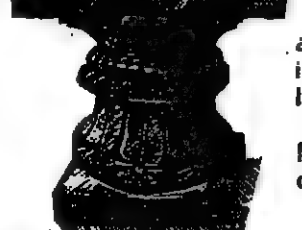
Although the décor has changed, it is still as whimsically original as ever. There is a lot of *trompe-l'œil*, consummately executed, a tent effect ceiling, the original light fittings and glass screen with pineapples on top of it. The delightfully light neo-Regency chairs have been refurbished and the place looks good for another 30 years.

The well-prepared main dishes — calf's liver with sage, fine steak with green peppercorns — are not improved by having generous piles of quite respectable vegetables dumped all round them. Things like *vietto tonnato* are not bad and the welcome and the service are as good as they ever were — which is to say that they are unforcedly friendly and efficient. The bill: £45 for two.

La Gothique: The Royal Victoria Patriotic Building, Fitzhugh Grove, off Trinity Road, SW18 (01-870 6557), Mon to Fri 11.30am-2.30pm, Mon to Sat 7-11pm. Closed Sun and Sat lunch.
Jensen's: 5 Greek Street, W1 (01-437 20067 or 734 2334), Mon to Fri 12noon-2.30pm, Mon to Sat 6-11.30pm. Closed Sun and Sat lunch.
Vaseo and Piero's Pavilion: 15 Poland Street, W1 (01-437 8774), Mon to Fri 12noon-3pm, Mon to Sat 6-11pm. Closed Sun and Sat lunch.



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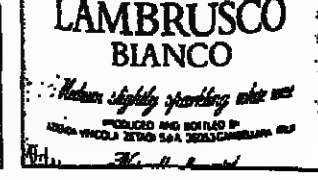
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THE ARTS

Acting the part

Ginger Rogers could act anything which she could understand, said her former studio boss, Pandro Berman, during the latest episode in BBC2's *The RKO Story*. The problem, according to him, was getting her to understand things. Ms Rogers's powers of comprehension, however, should not be underestimated. You might not have thought that her sassy street wisdom would have given her the low-down on a virgin queen but, by all

TELEVISION

accounts, her screen test for the role of Elizabeth I in *Mary of Scotland* was sensational. Not only did she act the queen but also the actress acting the queen. The studio had refused permission for her to try for the part so she pretended to be an unknown hopeful and got herself unrecognizably togged up in the garb for a test.

Unfortunately, the studio thought the public would never understand Rogers's Elizabeth. Had she been awarded the role she would have played opposite Katharine Hepburn, and *The RKO Story* repeatedly opposed clips of the two from past films and contemporary interviews. Perhaps surprisingly, Rogers was the more impressive in the films, a brilliant, witty, sensual performer. Hepburn, who did much of her best work for other studios, even occasionally gave some credibility to Dorothy Parker's cruel quip about her running the gamut of emotions from A to B.

The interviews, though, were another matter. Although she was frail and shaking, Hepburn's natural beauty and strength of personality was undimmed and unadorned. Rogers, however, spoke from behind a thick protection of paint, frills and peroxide. The great Dame looked as though she was trying to understand how to play an over-dressed French poodle.

Omnibus (BBC1) in its profile of Rod Hackney showed that the leading prophet of "community architecture" has aged well since the clips of him as a long-haired, clogged pioneer. But it was clear from the programme that, even if widely adopted, his admirable self-help philosophy — unkindly dubbed by one critic as "the evangelical wing of the home improvement industry" — could only resolve a tiny proportion of the country's housing problems. Is it beyond architects and governments to give us buildings which work, and please us, and are not built by ourselves?

Andrew Hislop

Daniel Massey tells Sheridan Morley why he is returning to musicals in *Follies* on Tuesday

Strike up the band

Of all the Stephen Sondheim musicals that have never been seen professionally staged in London — and there are still half a dozen, from *Anyone Can Whistle* across 20 years to *Sunday in the Park with George* — the most discussed and eagerly awaited has always been *Follies*. First given on Broadway in April 1971, with a cast headed by such veteran Hollywood and Broadway Babes as Yvonne De Carlo and Alexis Smith, it has been staged over here most notably in a courageous Manchester production two summers ago, but never before given the resources of a major West End management or cast.

At a time when British musicals still dominate Broadway, *Follies* comes to establish a new counter-crossing of the Atlantic: it will be followed later in the year by a Coliseum production of Sondheim's *Pacific Overtures* (also a London premiere), while his revision of *Candide* will be in Jonathan Miller's 1988 season at the Old Vic.

Those who loved *Follies* remained across the years a vociferous lobby, one so appalled by the limitations of the original cast recording that a couple of seasons ago they organized a starry concert with the New York Philharmonic in order that the score might be heard in its entirety. The huge success of that concert, on record and television here and in America, coupled with the determination of the impresario Cameron Mackintosh for *Follies* at long last to get a London hearing, led both the author of its book, James Goldman, and Sondheim to go back to work on what was always admitted were the problems of the show and, specifically, of its second half.

Mike Ockrent's production brings back to the musical stage an actor whom many seem surprised to find there at all. When, at a recent memorial to Alan Jay Lerner, the title song from his *Gigi* was definitively sung by Daniel Massey, it came as a sharp reminder that a player most recently associated with a television serial about Aids and, before that, long classical seasons at the National and RSC had in fact started out more than 20 years ago as a song and dance man.

Massey got his first breaks in West End revue and musicals like *Make Me an Offer*, before going on to *Gigi* and *She Loves Me* on Broadway and then Hollywood, where he played his godfather Noël Coward in a catastrophic film musical about Gertrude Lawrence.

Reckoning that to be the end of his musical life, Massey returned to the stage and two decades of major roles. So why has he returned to the musical?

"Partly I think because we now know how to do them over here, though they remain fiendishly difficult to do well. They're not operas or plays but a kind of balancing act, and if you fall then that's the end of that. I went back to singing lessons, found that my voice was still all right, and then after I'd sung at Alan's memorial they sent me the script of *Follies* and I just realized I had to do it."

"*Follies* is still about a reunion, but the perspectives of the characters have all rather changed, and as for the numbers, when Sondheim is on form the way he is here there is really nobody to touch him. A first hand call in a theatre is still the most exciting sound I know."

The son of Raymond and brother of

Anna, Massey grew up in a highly theatrical if only faintly musical family: "Vivien Leigh told me that dancing with my father was one of the most exciting experiences of her life, and he did once play a song and dance man in *Idiot's Delight*, but I never really started out with the problem of being his son because he and my mother had long since divorced and he had gone to live in America. With Anna, too, I learnt very early on to develop a different path because although we get along all right, we are totally different people."

Privately Massey's life has not been altogether easy: an early divorce from Adrienne Corri was followed by a second marriage, to Penelope Wilton, which also ended in separation.

"I think I must be a late developer, and in the last two or three years since I left the RSC I have found it quite difficult professionally, because outside of Shakespeare and Ibsen you don't often find work which challenges you both intellectually and physically. A lot of *Follies* does that, but it's about the breaking up of relationships, and although there are aspects of my own life which I can use for that, it does get very painful."

"My working life seems to be in a state of transition just as my private life is also changing again. All that I know is I still have a very long way to go: the classical theatre may no longer turn out to be the magic kingdom if it loses proper funding, and yet to plan any other kind of career is really impossible. You just have to see what works out and go with that. All I can be sure about is that at 53, when some people have their lives levelled out and drifting down into the shade, mine isn't like that at all. There is still a great deal to be done."



In transit: Daniel Massey with "a great deal still to be done"

Dance of desperation

THEATRE IN LONDON

They Shoot Horses, Don't They? Mermaid

It happens that this is the second play on the dance marathons of the American Depression that I have seen in the past week. The first, June Havoc's *Marathon*, has just ended a four-month run in Niagara, the same length as Miss Havoc's own all-time dance record (3,600 hours).

Emerging from that show, a drab and pitiless re-enactment of a contest taken to the limits of exhaustion and watched by a stage audience who were there to relish the sight of people even more unfortunate

than themselves, you felt that you too had been made to stay the course.

In discussing his production of Ray Herman's play (*The Times*, July 15), Ron Daniels said that his intention was to enter June Havoc's world rather than that of the film version of *They Shoot Horses*. After which, it comes as a surprise to find the Mermaid auditorium glittering under a festive array of fairy light, and to see the contestants assembling on a spick-and-span dance floor decorated with monster dollar bills. Also, no sooner have the partners taken the floor than the scene gives way to a spoliati murder inquiry.

Adapted from Horace McCoy's novel, the play has a story to tell. It is not a documentary. Even so, the essence of this event is that it goes on without interruption to the bitter end, and much has been sacrificed in stopping

the music to accommodate the combined flashbacks and interrogations.

My immediate impression was that the actuality of the event had been overlaid with antizited fictions; and that a bunch of wretched kids crowding on to the floor is much in search of free foodstuffs of winning the contest, had been supplanted by a group of carefully eye-catching individual cases: a boy with gambling debts, a pregnant girl, a criminal on the run.

As the production works out, though, all the characters acquire real substance during their 5-day ordeal on the floor, and their fates are finally determined by hard Depression logic rather than by melodramatic expectation.

Also, once the fumbling preliminaries are over, the production does develop a ghastly sardonic rhythm, beginning in a party atmosphere and gradually wearying a the

hours mount up, and as elimination savagely speeded up with "grinds", "sprints" and "perys" until they are shuffling around, hollow-eyed, deep in one another's arms.

The centre of the fable consists of a relationship between Boy (Paul Greenwood) and Gloria (Imelda Staunton): a typical Southern country boy and a Texas girl irreparably damaged by brutality and defeat. It is a collision between compulsive American optimism and immovable despair, to which he finally capitulates by granting her plea for a pilot in the brain.

As a tale for today's headbangers, it needs no underlining. On Ralph Koolha's stage with the harsh indoor glare giving way to the soft light of nocturnal Malibu, it is an image to remember.

Irving Wardle

THEATRE IN PARIS

Monsieur Chasse! Comédie Française Porte St Martin

Genuine French farce is still fully still on the menu at the Comédie Française. It has added to its repertoire a 'suddenly re-worked revival of Georges Feydeau's *Monsieur Chasse!*, directed with panache by Yves Pignot.

Of Feydeau's 60 farces, *Monsieur Chasse!* is said to have been his personal favourite. Conversely, it cannot be said to be on a par with *Le Dindon*, or *Une Fugue à l'opéra*. Nevertheless, *Monsieur Chasse!* (English title, *The Birdwatcher*) bears all the hallmarks of the Maître Farceur, with occasional sparks of outstanding verbal wit and comic genius.

Concentrating on the piece's finely calibrated physical mechanics, Pignot neatly translates them into an amusing aside. Instead of immediately raising the curtain on Arthur Aballain's deep-pile period design, the lights go down for a giant projection of an exact replica of a silent film, admirably realized by Jean-Philippe Pymartin. When the curtain does go up, the last image on the screen is replaced by its full-colour, flesh and blood original on stage.

This effective mixture of exact matching of filmed and live theatre introduces all three acts. While the audience are giggling at the Chaplinesque antics of the stage staff transforming a staid mahogany drawing room into an outrageously frivolous love-nest, they are working for real unseen (if not unheard) behind the screen.

As always, the plot is roughly the shape of an eternal triangle. Monsieur conceals his infidelities by saying he is out in the wilds hunting with a chum, while he is bagging quite different sort of game in a luxury covert next to the Gare Saint-Lazare.

All runs smoothly until Madame's erstwhile young lover points out that where there is rabbit, there is never hare. Whether this be true or not, the inference is that

ROCK

Singular talent

Billy Joel
Wembley Arena

Regardless of whatever complex theorizing lay behind the austere design of the stage set, one could have been forgiven for thinking that Billy Joel had returned to London in reduced circumstances three years after the extravagance of his previous tour. But while his last album, *The Bridge*, barely tested the British chart, and he has not had a decent hit single here since "An Innocent Man" in 1984, in America he continues to flourish, and this was, after all, part of a five-night residency at the capacious Arena.

It sounded cheap too, with a harsh quality to the fretless that was unpleasantly noticeable for instance, when Joel played his harmonica during "Piano Man", and employing a level of volume more suitable for a band like AC/DC, who indeed played out much louder at this same venue.

But then it is part of Joel's peculiar appeal that he has an embarrassment of talent at his disposal which he has never quite decided what to do with. One part of him would like to head his classical piano training in the service of heavy techno-flash rock; thus the long meandering format, awkward tempo-changes and even the title of "Scenes from an Italian Restaurant" could have come straight from mid-Seventies Genesis. Slipping between genres and decades like a bee that wants to pollinate every flower in the field, he tackled the belated "Goodnight Saigon", replete with thunderous helicopter noises, fire and aft, brooding into the grand jazz swing of "Big Man on Mulberry Street", and treated us to his loving Ray Charles impersonation, even donning dark glasses, for "Baby Grand".

His versatile eight-piece band were wisely geared to provide the maximum flexible response, dishing out heavy old Chuck Berry riffs on "You May Be Right" but capable of resolving themselves into a barbershop quartet for "Dumas" and "The Longest Time".

The show was buoyed up by a steady energy that was maintained for two hours. "Up Town Girl" and "Tell Her About It" were wheeled out as encores. The set-piece "Big Shot" ended at mature entertainment with a characteristic lack of pretension.

David Sinclair

MIDAMERICA PRODUCTIONS

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"... alert, energetic, ... impassioned, ... skillful ..." THE NEW YORK TIMES

Irish innocence

Public Enemy
Lyric, Hammersmith

Not another play about the Irish troubles set in Belfast? Well, the Belfast of Kenneth Branagh's new play is not the one we are used to, more a mid-Atlantic city with a distinct resemblance to Chicago. Geoff Rose's splendid film noir set consisting mainly of a sinister boarded-up warehouse, is one dislocating factor; another is the lugubriously wisecracking figure of Police Inspector Thompson.

After this introduction, it is not so surprising to see the warehouse's corner panel slide back and reveal an Irish pub in which Jimmy Cagney is doing his "Yankee Doodle" routine. In fact it is Branagh as Tommy Black, a young unemployed Protestant with a passion for Cagney films who is impersonating his idol in a talent competition.

He duly wins the competition and falls in love with the runner-up, a girl called Kitty Rogers (a startlingly natural debut performance by Ethna Roddy) whose offering is a truly awful piece of Country and Western. Things are not too rosy in the Black household, however: father has been killed by the IRA, mother (Brenda Peters) is sacked from her work in a shop and brother Robert is in his 200th job application.

The first half ends with the unexpected murder of a vid-

shop proprietor in Andersonstown. Why anyone would have wanted to commit murder for the £150 in the pot, the significance of the missing cassette of the missing film *The Public Enemy*, the mystery of why a Protestant should risk wandering round Andersonstown late at night: these are all questions which exercise Thompson (John Rogan) and which it would be unfair to answer here.

Suffice it to say that we go from the lighter side of Cagney to his more sinister side. As the play becomes apparently more serious, though, the element of parody and tongue-in-cheek does not wholly disappear. As far as the overall tone is concerned, the prevailing influence is not film noir but the work of Steven Spielberg. The violence which impinges on the play has a saving touch of shrewdness, which comes from the awareness that violence is an artistic convention.

Of course violence in Belfast is not simply an artistic convention, and this is where *Public Enemy* treads on dangerous ground. What saves the day is a vein of genuine innocence running through the fantasy. It comes through also in Kenneth Branagh's charmingly whimsical, mercifully physically magnetic performance, and makes this into an improbably touching as well as an exciting entertainment.

Harry Eyre

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BECK'S BEER

As always, the plot is roughly the shape of an eternal triangle. Monsieur conceals his infidelities by saying he is out in the wilds hunting with a chum, while he is bagging quite different sort of game in a luxury covert next to the Gare Saint-Lazare.

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Diane Hill

BRIDGE

Blaming partner

The London Trophy, sponsored by Holborn Unit Trusts, is a Teams competition for non-bridge clubs. The formula, whereby conventions are few and experts are limited to one National Master per team, is obviously appealing, because the entry this year has risen to 256 teams. This, I suspect, is partly due to Freddie Della Porta, who has worked ceaselessly to promote his brainchild.

He describes an amusing encounter between Oxford St George's Old Boys and Coalhurst Lawn Tennis Club, which occurred in the quarter final last year.

Teams East-West Game Dealer South

W N E S
10 26 No 2NT
No No No No

On a diamond lead, Declarer made nine tricks. If Coalhurst could make any plus score in the other room, they would still win.

W N E S
10 26 No 2NT
No No No No

The Coalhurst team bid and made four hearts. This was the sequence when Oxford St George's sat North-South.

W N E S
10 26 No 2NT
No No No No

Della Porta observes: "Not all players are immune from the blundering habit of blaming partner." Unbelievably, it appears North was critical of South. As I see it, North's only defensible call was his reply to Blackwood. If four hearts over three diamonds was bad, the initial response of one spade was unforgivable. With four-card support for partner's major it is only correct not to raise on the first round when your hand is

too good to bid game. With one board to play, Coalhurst were leading by 410 points. This was the final hand.

Love all, Dealer West

W N E S
10 26 No 2NT
No No No No

When the St George's sat North-South, the bidding followed a predictable path.

W N E S
10 26 No 2NT
No No No No

South's pass is certainly timid, although an accurate defence against two spades would still have sufficed. But South started with the ♠A, and despite his partner's discouraging ♠A, continued with the ♠K, which presented East with the contract.

Paradoxically, if South had bid three no trumps, East's bid of two spades could possibly have achieved a spectacular result. Suppose West leads the ♠K. Unless declarer withholds dummy's Ace, there is no entry to the clubs. Now a diamond switch by West will defeat the contract.

It is rare to find a Deschappelles Coup at trick one.

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

Worthy winners

Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall, is the worthy winner of this year's British Schools' Championship, sponsored by *The Times*. In the final, held at London's Great Eastern Hotel, Queen Mary's overcame St Paul's, London, in a nerve-racking mental battle.

Both teams scored three points, no games were drawn and Walsall emerged on top by virtue of the tie-break system. This favoured wins scored on the higher boards of the match, where the stronger players were in action.

I watched the final closely. It struck me that both finalists were finely balanced in terms of pure chess skill, but what turned the battle in favour of the Midlands side was its collective strength of will.

Individual results were (Queen Mary's names first):

Mark Wheeler beat Ali Morizavi; Darren Wheeler lost to James Cavendish; Paul Burton beat Alex Selkirk; Michael Gough beat Daniel Albridge; Mark Cooper lost to Caspar Bates and Mark Hewitt lost to Tim Croeland.

Here is the decisive top board game.

White: Mark Wheeler (Queen Mary's); Black: Ali Morizavi (St Paul's). Dutch Defences

1 d4 e6 2 d5 exd5 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 Nc3 Nb6 5 Bg5 Nd7 6 e4 c6 7 Bc4 Bb7 8 Qd2 Qc7 9 Bb3 Qc8 10 Bxd7 Qxd7 11 Bb3 Qc8 12 Bxd7 Qxd7 13 Bb3 Qc8 14 Bxd7 Qxd7 15 Bb3 Qc8 16 Bxd7 Qxd7 17 Bb3 Qc8 18 Bxd7 Qxd7 19 Bb3 Qc8 20 Bxd7 Qxd7 21 Bb3 Qc8 22 Bxd7 Qxd7 23 Bb3 Qc8 24 Bxd7 Qxd7 25 Bb3 Qc8 26 Bxd7 Qxd7 27 Bb3 Qc8 28 Bxd7 Qxd7 29 Bb3 Qc8 30 Bxd7 Qxd7 31 Bb3 Qc8 32 Bxd7 Qxd7 33 Bb3 Qc8 34 Bxd7 Qxd7 35 Bb3 Qc8 36 Bxd7 Qxd7 37 Bb3 Qc8 38 Bxd7 Qxd7 39 Bb3 Qc8 40 Bxd7 Qxd7 41 Bb3 Qc8 42 Bxd7 Qxd7 43 Bb3 Qc8 44 Bxd7 Qxd7 45 Bb3 Qc8 46 Bxd7 Qxd7 47 Bb3 Qc8 48 Bxd7 Qxd7 49 Bb3 Qc8 50 Bxd7 Qxd7 51 Bb3 Qc8 52 Bxd7 Qxd7 53 Bb3 Qc8 54 Bxd7 Qxd7 55 Bb3 Qc8 56 Bxd7 Qxd7 57 Bb3 Qc8 58 Bxd7 Qxd7 59 Bb3 Qc8 60 Bxd7 Qxd7 61 Bb3 Qc8 62 Bxd7 Qxd7 63 Bb3 Qc8 64 Bxd7 Qxd7 65 Bb3 Qc8 66 Bxd7 Qxd7 67 Bb3 Qc8 68 Bxd7 Qxd7 69 Bb3 Qc8 70 Bxd7 Qxd7 71 Bb3 Qc8 72 Bxd7 Qxd7 73 Bb3 Qc8 74 Bxd7 Qxd7 75 Bb3 Qc8 76 Bxd7 Qxd7 77 Bb3 Qc8 78 Bxd7 Qxd7 79 Bb3 Qc8 80 Bxd7 Qxd7 81 Bb3 Qc8 82 Bxd7 Qxd7 83 Bb3 Qc8 84 Bxd7 Qxd7 85 Bb3 Qc8 86 Bxd7 Qxd7 87 Bb3 Qc8 88 Bxd7 Qxd7 89 Bb3 Qc8 90 Bxd7 Qxd7 91 Bb3 Qc8 92 Bxd7 Qxd7 93 Bb3 Qc8 94 Bxd7 Qxd7 95 Bb3 Qc8 96 Bxd7 Qxd7 97 Bb3 Qc8 98 Bxd7 Qxd7 99 Bb3 Qc8 100 Bxd7 Qxd7 101 Bb3 Qc8 102 Bxd7 Qxd7 103 Bb3 Qc8 104 Bxd7 Qxd7 105 Bb3 Qc8 106 Bxd7 Qxd7 107 Bb3 Qc8 108 Bxd7 Qxd7 109 Bb3 Qc8 110 Bxd7 Qxd7 111 Bb3 Qc8 112 Bxd7 Qxd7 113 Bb3 Qc8 114 Bxd7 Qxd7 115 Bb3 Qc8 116 Bxd7 Qxd7 117 Bb3 Qc8 118 Bxd7 Qxd7 119 Bb3 Qc8 120 Bxd7 Qxd7 121 Bb3 Qc8 122 Bxd7 Qxd7 123 Bb3 Qc8 124 Bxd7 Qxd7 125 Bb3 Qc8 126 Bxd7 Qxd7 127 Bb3 Qc8 128 Bxd7 Qxd7 129 Bb3 Qc8 130 Bxd7 Qxd7 131 Bb3 Qc8 132 Bxd7 Qxd7 133 Bb3 Qc8 134 Bxd7 Qxd7 135 Bb3 Qc8 136 Bxd7 Qxd7 137 Bb3 Qc8 138 Bxd7 Qxd7 139 Bb3 Qc8 140 Bxd7 Qxd7 141 Bb3 Qc8 142 Bxd7 Qxd7 143 Bb3 Qc8 144 Bxd7 Qxd7 145 Bb3 Qc8 146 Bxd7 Qxd7 147 Bb3 Qc8 148 Bxd7 Qxd7 149 Bb3 Qc8 150 Bxd7 Qxd7 151 Bb3 Qc8 152 Bxd7 Qxd7 153 Bb3 Qc8 154 Bxd7 Qxd7 155 Bb3 Qc8 156 Bxd7 Qxd7 157 Bb3 Qc8 158 Bxd7 Qxd7 159 Bb3 Qc8 160 Bxd7 Qxd7 161 Bb3 Qc8 162 Bxd7 Qxd7 163 Bb3 Qc8 164 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THE WEEK AHEAD



DANCE

TOP TOES: Merce Cunningham invades Britain on three fronts. Tonight (7.40-8.35pm), BBC2 shows *Points in Space*, a documentary including a specially created ballet. Tomorrow Cunningham's company join their music adviser, John Cage, for *Roaratorio* at the Proms. A two-week season at Sadler's Wells with four programmes opens on Tuesday. Cunningham is 66, but his creative presence makes this one of the world's most arresting and stimulating dance companies. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).



OPERA

UNRAVELLED: Maurice Ravel is the composer of both operas in the double bill which makes up Glyndebourne's second new production of the season. *L'Heure espagnole* was seen here in the mid-Sixties, when it was oddly twinned with *Dido and Aeneas*. This week it has a more natural partner in Ravel's other one-act opera, *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, receiving its first performance here. Simon Rattle conducts. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111). Wednesday (also next Saturday) at 6.30pm.



BOOKS

RADICAL FEMINIST: Simone de Beauvoir dominated not only the French intelligentsia, but also feminist thinking for 50 years. Her devotion to Jean-Paul Sartre is one of the paradoxes explored in her first full-scale biography, *Simone de Beauvoir*, by Claude Francis and Fernando Gontier (Sidgwick & Jackson, £15, published Thursday), based on her huge unpublished correspondence, steeped in the atmosphere of St Germain de Prés, explores the public and private lives of one of the stars of our century.



CONCERTS

SMALL MERMAID: Christoph von Dohnányi, grandson of the composer Ernő Dohnányi, has charge of the BBC Symphony Orchestra for Thursday's Promenade concert. On the programme is the British premiere of Zemlinsky's symphonic poem *Die Seejungfrau*, based on Hans Andersen's *The Little Mermaid* — a piece neglected for 80 years. He also conducts Brahms's Symphony No 1. Martin Roscoe is at the piano for Richard Strauss's *Burlöske*. Royal Albert Hall (01-589 8212, cc 01-589 9465), Thursday, 7.30pm.



ROCK

GOOD VIBRATIONS: Brian Wilson, the unhappy songwriting "genius" at the heart of the Beach Boys' troubled dynasty, joins his brother Carl, Mike Love, Al Jardine and Bruce Johnston for a UK postscript to last year's silver jubilee American tour. The teenage surfing harmonies and ringing Chuck Berry guitar riffs of their early work will no doubt evoke the sort of affectionate response that gave them an unforgettable triumph in the adjacent stadium 12 summers ago. Tomorrow, Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01-902 1234).



FILMS ON TV

MOODY MAGIC: Robert Mitchum is at his sleepy-eyed best as the laconic New York private eye hired by a gambler (Kirk Douglas) to find a missing girl (Jane Greer) in *Build My Gallows High*. Directed in 1947 by the expatriate Jacques Tourneur, it is a classic Hollywood film noir, a moody, atmospheric thriller, with crackling dialogue, a tortuous plot, a woman up to no good and a pervasive world-weary cynicism. The film is also known by its American title, *Out of the Past*. BBC2, Tuesday, 9-10.30pm.

THEATRE

FLIGHT: Transfer from Stratford by RSC. David Lan's chronicle of Jewish family, from being refugees from Lithuania to colonists under threat in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. Directed by Howard Davies. From Thurs. in repertory. Opens July 28.

LIGHT UP THE SKY: Elijah Moshinsky's production of Moss Hart's *Fortes* comedy of US theatre life re-cast with Keith Baxter, Art Metrano, Kate O'Mara, Gwen Taylor, Maxine Audley. Globe (01-437 3667). Previews from Mon. Press Night July 28.

MADE IN SPAIN: Comedy of contemporary London low-life, by Tony Grounds. Cast includes Julie T. Wallace, Amanda Drewry. Directed by Wyn Jones. New End (01-794 0022). Previews tonight, Sun. Opens Tues.

MYSTERY OF THE ROSE BOUQUET: World premiere of a play by Manuel Puig, author of *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Brenda Bruce and Gemma Jones as strangers who meet in a private clinic in South America. Directed by Robert Allan Ackerman. Donmar Warehouse (01-240 8230). Previews Wed, Thurs. Opens Fri.

RAISING THE ROOF: One-off benefit for the Tricycle and the Bush theatres, recently damaged by fire. Writers and performers include Alan Bennett, Simon Callow, Robbie Coltrane, David Edgar, John Fortune, Fetti Lewis, Miriam Margolyes, Roger McGough, Alan Plater, Stephen Poliakoff, Stephen Rea, Griff Rhys-Jones, Prunella Scales, Peter Tinniswood and Timothy West, plus the companies of *The Amen Corner*, *Bouncers*, *Up On The Roof*. Royal Court (01-730 1745). £15-£30. Sun, 7.30pm.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THEATRE: Second of three weeks. Information Line: 01-379 0769. Until Aug 2. This week's openings include: *Barfnapen*: Magiclan, clown, mime and poet Pep Bou, from Barcelona with a "soap-bubble ballet". Battersea Arts Centre (01-223 2223). Opens Wed. *Cercueil*: From Moscow, Anatoli Vashiev & Company in a play by Victor Slavin. Riverside Studios (01-748 3354). Opens Sun. Until July 26. No performance Wed. *Circus Oz*: Australian all-human circus, combining cabaret and comedy with traditional skills. The Big Top, Coln Street, Upper Ground, London SE1 (01-620 0613). Opens today. Until Aug 9. No performances Mon, Tues, July 27, Aug 3, 4.

CONCERTS

LIGHTWEIGHT PROM: The first Saturday Prom of the 93rd season is a completely undemanding one, with Lahti's *Gold and Silver*, Johann Strauss II's *Thunder and Lightning*, Lumbye's *Champagne Galop*, Richard Strauss's *Rosenkavalier* Suite. In all this Bryden Thomas conducts the Hallé Orchestra and Philip Fowke is at the piano for Dohnányi's *Nursery Song Variations*. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-589 8212), cc 01-589 9465. Today, 7.30pm.

ALMEIDA BAROQUE: A new orchestra, the Almeida Baroque, with Simon Standage as conductor/violinist, plays works by Germaine and Vivaldi. Part of the Clerkenwell Festival. St James Church, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1 (01-253 0054), today 7.30pm.

MASSSED CHOIRS: The Pennsylvania Madrigal, Wisconsin Wausau Lutheran Civic Choir, the Texas Mastersingers, the Pleasantville Cantata Singers and many others combine to perform Verdi's *Requiem* under Peter Tiboris. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-926 3191). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

VW'S JOB: Vaughan Williams's ballet *Job* is performed by the BBC SO conducted by Sir John Pritchard, as is Falla's *El amor brujo*. And Ida Haendel solos in

GALLERIES

ALVAR AALTO (1898-1976): Furniture and glass designed by the Finnish architect whose forms emphasize the natural world. Victoria and Albert Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (01-589 6371).

INTRODUCING WITH PLEASURE: Roald Dahl picked a Francis Bacon, and Kate Adie a Christopher Le Brun in this Arts Council show chosen by 12 celebrities. Midway Adult Education Centre, Eastgate, Rochester, Kent (0634 45359). From Wed. Free.

20TH CENTURY ART AND DESIGN: This survey, derived from the gallery's collection, marries Matise paintings to Lucy Rie ceramics and decorative furniture by Roger Fry's Omega Workshops. City Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester (061 236 9422). From today. Free.

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET: Two more performances of Cranko's romantic masterpiece *Onegin*, with Janette Mulligan and Martin James this afternoon, Natalia Makarova and Ivan Liska tonight. Coliseum (01-836 3161).

WIGAN JAZZ FESTIVAL: Trumpeter Freddie Hubbard gets an ambitious festival off to a rousing start by leading a genuine all-star ensemble in a tribute to Louis Armstrong's classic *Hot Five and Hot Seven*. Tonight, Mill at the Pier, Wigan (0942 828076).

JOHN COLTRANE MEMORIAL: 20 years after his death, the young British groups of the saxophonist Steve Williamson and the flautist Phil Best pay tribute to a master. Tomorrow, Theatre Royal, Stratford East, Gerry Raffles Square, London E15 (01-534 0310).

A.R. Penck: the pseudonym of 48-year-old East German artist Ralf Winkler (above), paints pictures consisting of a dense, indecipherable language of stick men and arcane symbols derived from primitive art. In 1980, he left East Germany and now lives in London. An exhibition of recent bronze sculptures and a huge painting, which he is executing in the gallery, opens today at Kettle's Yard, Cambridge (0223 352124). Free.

BERT HARDY: Sparkling retrospective by veteran photographer who pioneered a British style of photo-documentary in *Picture Post* magazine during the 1940s. The Photogallery, The Crossways Arms, Shepherd Street, St Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex (0424 440104). Until August 22.

THE WALL: Not only the Berlin Wall but dividing lines throughout the world — green line in Beirut and Peace line in Belfast — come under the scrutiny of photographers such as Bert Hardy, Cartier-Bresson and Bill Brandt. Impression Gallery, Colliergate, York (0904 54724). Until August 29.

THE POGUES/HEAD: A "Picnic in the Park" show, starting at 2pm in the Supertent. Other acts are Pottery 5, After Tonight and The Proclaimers. Today, Finsbury Park, London N4 (01-734 8932).

WEST LONDON FOLK FESTIVAL: Starting at noon and featuring Linda Thompson, The Strawbs, Melanie Harrold, Harvey Andrews, Whippersnapper with Dave Swarbrick, and others. Today, The Big Top, Beck Theatre, Hayes, Middlesex (01-561 8371).

TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY: The 25-year-old soul singer, born in Manhattan but resident in Britain, has enjoyed hits with his first two singles and looks like becoming one of the most exciting discoveries this year. Tomorrow, Barrowlands, Glasgow (041 552 4601); Mon, Powerhouse, Birmingham (021 643 4715); Tues, Studio, Bristol (0272 276193); Wed, Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081).

HUMAN RELATIONS: Arts Council touring exhibition, including Sickert, Bratby and Hockney, examining how different artists respond to similar subjects. Buckinghamshire County Museum, Aylesbury (0295 82158). From today. Free.

MICHEL JEAN CAZABON (1813-1888): Interesting first exhibition of portraits and landscapes by rediscovered black Trinidadian painter. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (01-602 0702). From Wed. Free.

DANCE

BOLSHOI BALLET ACADEMY: Students and recent graduates of the famous Moscow dance school open a two-week London season, followed by a tour to Manchester. Southampton and Birmingham. Each programme includes one or more substantial extracts from famous ballets and a group of shorter showpieces. Coliseum (01-836 3161), Tues to August 1.

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JVC/CAPITAL JAZZ PARADE: Sarah Vaughan shares Monday's opening bill with George Fame. Thereafter the Crusaders and Chick Corea (Tues), the potentially electrifying juxtaposition of Stan Getz and Branford Marsalis (Wed), Wynton Marsalis and Courtney Pine (Thurs) and a New Orleans evening (Fri). From Mon, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191).

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL: Strauss's *Capriccio* continues its successful run tonight, Tues and Thurs at 5.50pm. Peter Hall's perceptive production of *Così fan tutte* tomorrow at 4.10pm and Fri at 5.10pm. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111).

OPERA

BUXTON FESTIVAL: Opens today with the first opera on Thurs at 7.45pm: a double bill of Rossini's *L'occasione fa il ladro* and Donizetti's *Il Pigmaliione*. Malcolm Fraser directs both and Anthony Rose conducts. Opera House, Buxton, Derbyshire (0298 71010).

PIMPERNEL SMITH (1941):

Leslie Howard as director and star of an engaging wartime flag-waver about a letter-day escape from Nazi Germany. BBC1, Mon, 1.50-3.45pm.

THE BELLS OF ST MARY'S (1945):

Handkerchiefs to the ready as Bing Crosby recreates his Catholic priest from *Going My Way* and spars with Sister Ingrid Bergman over the extension to a poor city school. BBC1, Tues, 1.50-3.50pm.

DELIVERANCE (1972):

Burt Reynolds and Jon Voight lead the ready as a gripping allegory about four city dwellers who test their manhood by canoeing down a dangerous river and discovering that the main enemy is themselves. BBC1, Wed, 10.10-11.55pm.

PORCH SONGS: Comedy by

Leslie Bruce (whose *Lizzie* is a comedy recently on TV) about a widow (Pauline Lister) who returns home to find the house being sold against her. With Graham Crowden, Mary Wimbush and Jonathan Taffer as a parrot. Radio 3, Tues, 9.50-10.50pm.

MCC — THE FULLY

HARMONIOUS AND TOTALLY UNAUTHORIZED HISTORY: Peter Tinniswood's irreverent celebration of the bastion of

English cricket, with help from Robin Bailey as the broadcaster. Radio 4, Fri, 11-11.47am.

TELEVISION

TRAITOR: Re-run of Dennis Potter's 1971 study of betrayal, with John Le Mesurier giving the performance of his career as the British double agent holed up in Moscow. BBC1, Tues, 9.30-10.30pm.

SOUNDS OF SURPRISE: Profile of Miles Davis launches a series on the greats of modern jazz. Includes a Davis interview and clips from performances early and recent. Channel 4, Tues, 10.50-11.55pm.

THE GRAND JUNCTION: A portrait of the railway town of Crewe, which has just been celebrating its 150th anniversary. Presented by Brian Redhead with lovely footage of old steam locos. BBC2, Thurs, 8.10-9pm.

WALKS

TODAY THE LONDON OF DICKENS AND SHAKESPEARE: Meet Monument tube, 11am, £2.50 (a lunchtime pub-walk).

AROUND THE OLD CITY WALL — 2,000 YEARS OF HISTORY: Meet Tower Hill tube, 2pm, £2.50.

TOMORROW WALLACE COLLECTION: Meet Marble Arch tube, 2.30pm, £2.50.

JACK THE RIPPER AND ELEPHANT MAN MYSTERIES: Meet Aldgate tube, 11am, £3.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC2 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC3 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC4 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC5 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC6 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC7 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC8 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC9 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC10 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC11 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC12 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC13 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.00-9.15pm; *Scottish News*, 9.15-9.30pm; *Scottish News*, 9.30-9.45pm; *Scottish News*, 9.45-10.00pm.

BBC14 WALES 6.55-10.00pm: Sports News Wales, 6.55-7.00pm; *Scottish News*, 7.00-7.15pm; *Scottish News*, 7.15-7.30pm; *Scottish News*, 7.30-7.45pm; *Scottish News*, 7.45-8.00pm; *Scottish News*, 8.00-8.15pm; *Scottish News*, 8.15-8.30pm; *Scottish News*, 8.30-8.45pm; *Scottish News*, 8.45-9.00pm; *Scottish News*, 9.

'Good value' the key for Labour says Kaufman

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's new foreign affairs spokesman, yesterday told his party that it could not hope to beat the Tories at their own game of tax-cutting, and should not tear up its roots in an attempt to increase electoral appeal.

He said: "The Conservatives will always be able to outbid us, since they will readily cut taxes more and more even if tax cutting means reduced public services." The Tories would be willing to raise the funds by privatisations that Labour could never contemplate.

"Why should the electorate turn after a dozen years in opposition to a Labour Party offering what the Conservatives will have shown they can actually provide in a dozen years of government?" he asked. "Even were we to do so, the Conservatives could outflank us by offering even more of the same."

Mr Kaufman exposed Labour's dilemma by rejecting the idea that the party should turn its back on its traditional policies and yet admitting that Labour must win the votes of at least three million people who at the last election preferred Tory tax cuts or chose the Alliance because they were wary of Labour.

"We have to win the votes of the affluent because June 11, 1987, proved that the votes of the poor, the deprived

and the ethnic minorities can deliver no more than 229 seats in Parliament," he said.

Representing those people was a "noble mission" but Labour could not win without support in the constituencies of other parties. People would not vote for Labour if they thought it would take away things they valued. "Socialism must mean fairer shares of affluence, not equal shares of poverty," he said.

Mr Kaufman's contribution to Labour's internal debate did not take sides in the argument between Mr Bryan Gould's call for Labour to listen to what the people wanted, provide it and promote it better, and Mr Roy Hattersley's warning that the policies could not be sold like soap powder. Instead he called on Labour to become the party of good value public services.

Labour had to demonstrate that it was not merely well-intentioned but able to pay the bills. It had to show it was not merely the party of wealth consumption but of wealth-creation. Above all, he said: "We must demonstrate that we are the party of production and that the increment from production can not only fulfil individual and family aspirations but can provide the resources needed for improving community services without unacceptable levels of taxation."

Baker unveils new curriculum body

Continued from page 1

that working groups of experts will outline the curriculum. Their recommendations, Mr Baker explained, will then be considered by the new council.

He told the annual conference of the Council of Local Education Authorities in Lancaster, a largely hostile audience of Labour dominated authorities, that the Government was not planning to "take the show over".

He said local government would continue to play a crucial role in schools and colleges.

Mr Baker said: "The Government's policies will not be effective unless they secure the co-operation of the education service and the schools. For this reason we shall consult widely and we shall listen to what we are told."

Mr Baker said that parents would no longer accept a state education system that was based on the principle of "take it or leave it".

He said parents were demanding greater freedom of choice and that schools' suc-

cess would depend in future on the degree to which they satisfied their customers.

Mr Baker said both parents and employers were worried about education standards. They were not convinced that schools were equipping pupils for adult life.

He said the Government's radical proposals would introduce a new spirit of competition into the state system and act as a spur to all schools to improve their standards.

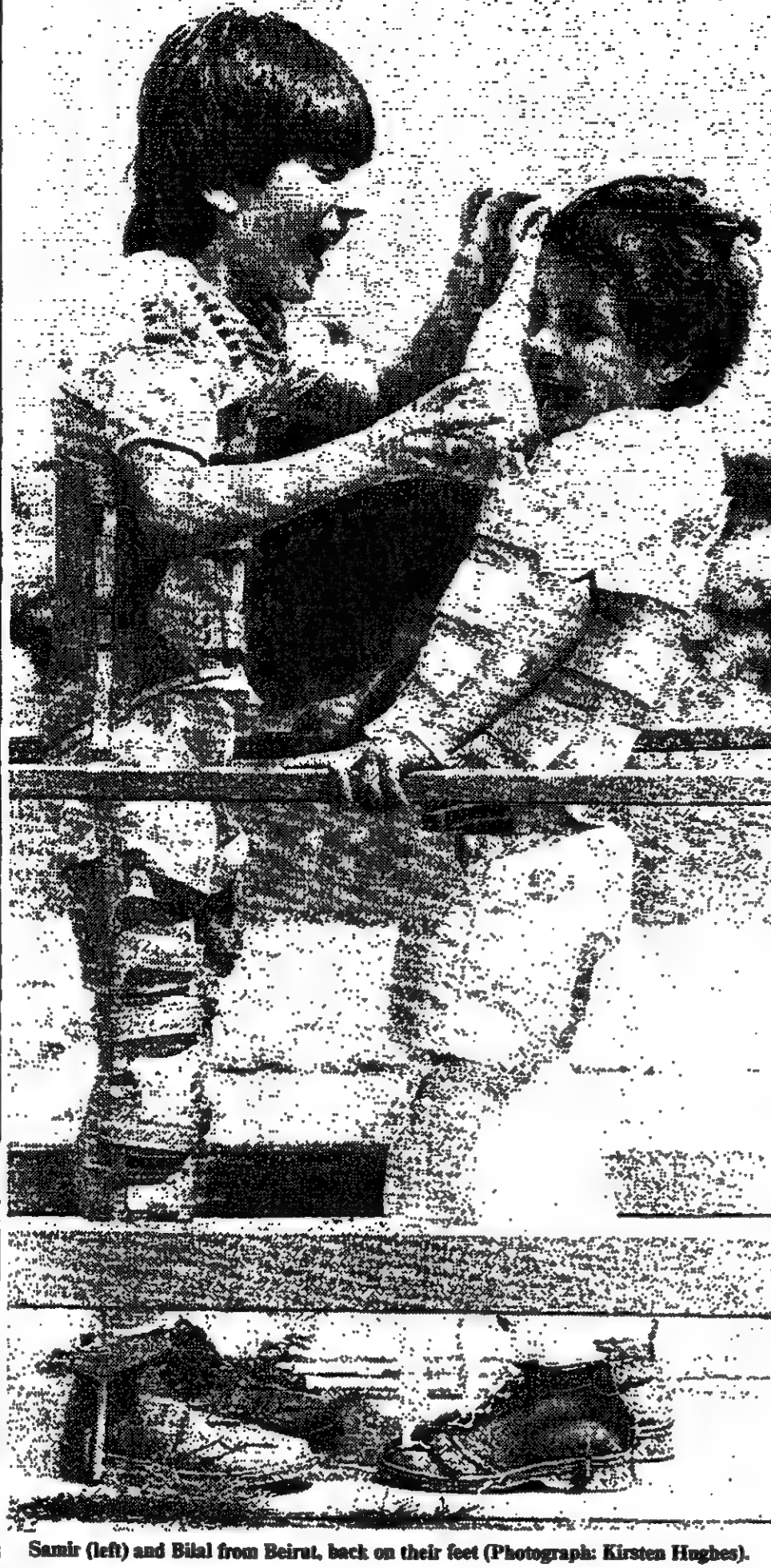
"Choice is popular because it gives people more power to improve their quality of life," Mr Baker said. "We must harness this powerful force to improve the quality of education."

Home economics teachers yesterday called for their subject to be included in the core curriculum for boys and girls aged five to 14 because it "allows pupils to realize the significance of the family".

The National Association of Teachers in Home Economics argue that pupils can hardly be equipped as future parents unless they can cook, manage a family budget and understand the importance of diet.

Tax relief call, page 2

Walking back to happiness



Samir (left) and Bilal from Beirut, back on their feet (Photograph: Kirsten Hughes).

Two paralysed boys brought out of Beirut for treatment at Stoke Mandeville hospital in Buckinghamshire are now standing for the first time, with the aid of a walking box.

The boys, Samir Ibrahim, aged nine, and Bilal Shabib, aged seven, came out of Lebanon after joint effort by Dr Pauline Cutting and Jimmy Savile, who paid for the trip. Dr Cutting nursed Bilal at a refugee camp after he had been shot by a sniper.

Mr Isaac Museibeh, the consultant at Stoke Mandeville, said: "They were both very proud when they stood up. 'They are getting better and better at pushing themselves around and I am sure with perseverance they will walk again.'"

Russian deserter who hid for 42 years

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

An Ukrainian soldier who was believed by his fellow villagers to have been killed in the Second World War, has been discovered alive and well — and living at home.

According to the Soviet weekly, *Nedelnya*, Kuzma Ivanovich Panchenko had spent 42 years in hiding before the local police found out about him. He had spent summers with friends in the countryside and winters in his home village of Kiselevka, where he lived in a secret cell he built for himself between the stove and the wall.

He went out only at night,

when he would walk past the war memorial which had his name inscribed on it along with those of 45 others killed in action.

Mr Panchenko had always been an unwilling soldier. After successfully evading call-up into the Red Army, he lived quietly through the German occupation of the Ukraine earning a living as a carpenter and cobbler. In 1943, when the territory was recaptured by the Soviet Army he was drafted to serve at the front, but soon deserted and surrendered to the Germans.

Towards the end of the war his prisoner-of-war camp was

Warning of Gulf arms bar

Continued from page 1

Mrs Thatcher's performance delighted Mr Reagan and leading Administration officials. Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, told Mrs Thatcher in their separate private talks that it had been impressive and most helpful.

She told one of her interviewers: "He has got his eyes on the future. We must. America is the flag of freedom. She must sail into the sunset not look back at what may or may not have happened."

Mrs Thatcher has refused all attempts to get her to comment on the details of the Iranagate scandal. It was an internal American problem, she said.

She said: "Yes I know how much attention it is receiving. What interests me is that America continues to take her leadership role in the free world. If America does not take that role she injures not only herself but the interests of the free world."

Asked if the President had told her that America was supporting the Contras, Mrs Thatcher retorted sharply: "You don't think I would reveal conversations between the President and the Prime Minister. They are confidential things between countries. I know the President. I believe he is a great leader. Even during this difficult period he has not let go of his leadership role in any way."

She said that the affair would not weaken Mr Reagan's hand in negotiations with the Soviet Union.

When it was put to her that senior commentators had said that because of Iranagate, foreign leaders would not be able to believe the President's policy statements, Mrs Thatcher remarked sharply: "I am absolutely astonished. I have dealt with the President for many years. I have absolute trust in him."

And she defended the President over the pace at which he was approaching the arms control talks.

Mrs Thatcher said the Soviet Union was not dragging its feet in the negotiations, but perhaps there might be "a bit of brinkmanship".

She denied that time was running out. Both sides wanted an agreement.

Marcinkus free as Rome court cancels warrant

From Roger Boyes, Rome

In a surprise, almost unprecedented move, the Italian Supreme Court yesterday cancelled arrest warrants issued against Archbishop Paul Marcinkus and two other senior Vatican bankers.

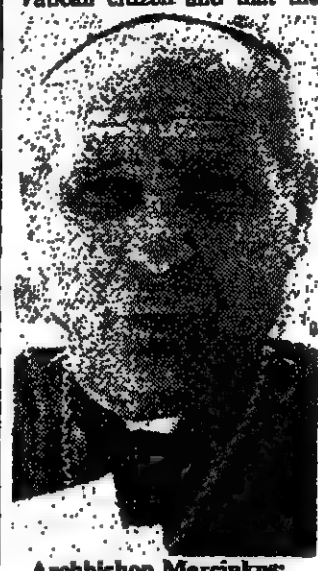
The decision seems to end a legal tug-of-war in which the Pope has been resisting attempts by the Italian authorities to extradite the controversial American cleric and his two colleagues from the Vatican, and possibly put them on trial on charges of aiding the fraudulent bankruptcy of the Banco Ambrosiano.

As a result, for the first time in several months, Archbishop Marcinkus, known as "The Gorilla" because of his bulky frame and former security function, can leave the safety of the Vatican wall and go shopping in Rome.

Arrest warrants were issued by Milan magistrates in April against the archbishop and the Vatican Bank (IOR) managing director, Signor Luigi Menzies, and chief accountant, Signor Pellerino de Strobel.

The Vatican questioned the legality of the warrants, which were based on four years of investigation into the chain of dummy companies established, allegedly with Vatican support, by the late Signor Roberto Calvi's Banco Ambrosiano.

The Pope described the Italian arrest proceedings as "brutal". The Vatican argued that the archbishop was a Vatican citizen and that the



Archbishop Marcinkus: Free to shop in Rome.

bank was a "central organ of the Catholic Church", so that the arrest and extradition proceedings violated the Lateran treaties signed between Mussolini and the Holy See.

But various legal institutions have upheld the validity of the warrants. When the State Prosecutor last week personally recommended to the Supreme Court, the so-called Court of Cassation, that it should rule that the archbishop be arrested, it seemed that he would be a virtual prisoner of the Vatican for any number of years. The Supreme Court rarely disagrees with the prosecutor's recommendations.

To the widespread astonishment of Italians, however, the court has effectively set free the archbishop, apparently agreeing with the argument of the Vatican. The political benefits of this decision are so obvious — relations between Italy and the Vatican have become particularly sour over the past few months — that there is speculation that a secret deal may have been struck.

Vatican diplomats had been hinting privately that if all pressure could be removed from Archbishop Marcinkus, a close associate of the Pope, then the Vatican Bank would become more co-operative.

The Pope was under severe time constraints. First, the Pope wanted Archbishop Marcinkus to accompany him on his September pilgrimage to the United States. Second, the archbishop is said to be involved in the still extremely tentative plan for a papal initiative towards the Catholics of the Soviet Union. Archbishop Marcinkus is of Lithuanian origin, a country where many Soviet Catholics live.

And, perhaps crucially, the two richest Episcopates — the United States and West Germany — are urging a complete overhaul of the Vatican Bank organization. This would probably involve the resignation of Archbishop Marcinkus, which could not be contemplated while he was a fugitive from Italian justice. His removal would be interpreted, especially in the notably anti-clerical Italian press, as an admission of guilt.

Brent schools chief ousted by Labour

The education chairman of the London borough of Brent who was at the centre of the dispute over headteacher Miss Maureen McGoldrick, is to be ousted by his Labour group (Our Education Reporter writes).

Two of the three constituency Labour parties have already voted to replace Mr Ron Anderson with his deputy Mr Nitim Parshotam.

The third will make a decision next week. Mr Anderson is expected to be removed from office on July 29.

ACROSS

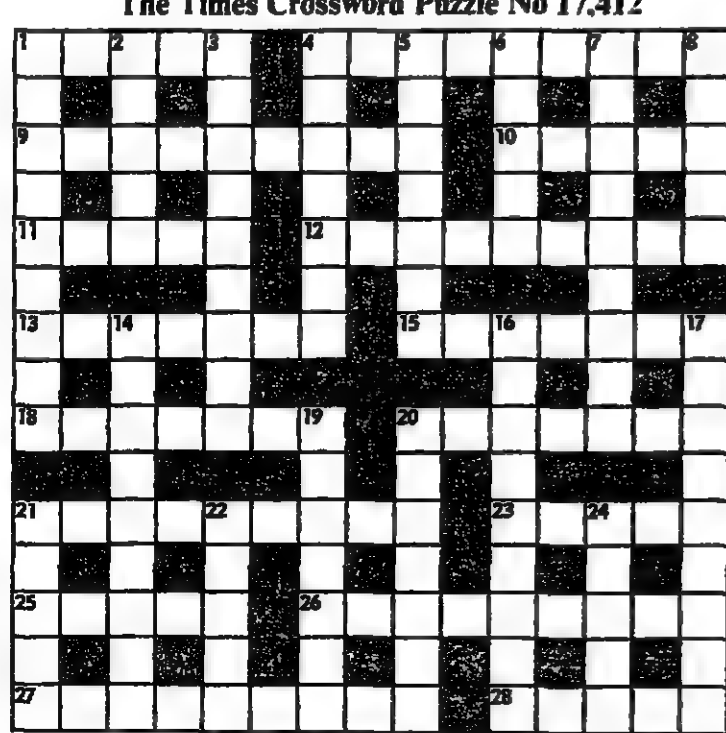
- 1 Back one sort of horse to cover ground again (5).
- 4 Presentation to public for group past their prime (9).
- 9 Clubman has whip-round for cheese (9).
- 10 Part of army in the crowd, they say (5).
- 11 Call up second person without agreement (5).
- 12 Tense, because out of practice? (9).
- 13 Most of the target area is less crowded (7).
- 15 Tell, for example, a joint ruler (7).
- 18 Draws an amateur thief (7).
- 20 One sort of football team in rebellion (7).
- 21 Flowers painter put round revolting subject (9).
- 23 American girl left in noisy scrap (5).
- 25 Would-be queen who went down to Buckingham Palace (5).
- 26 Hate to say I'm in disarray (9).
- 27 Pershes in river with it to maximum degree (9).
- 28 Split money from ordinary share (5).

DOWN

- 1 City Jane loved (9).
- 2 Engraved gem showed up on ring (5).
- 3 Confused peer with PM in Liberal bloomer (9).
- 4 Political leader as empire-builder? Right (7).
- 5 Short sailing boats on hand for light breeze (4-3).
- 6 Rock's ending in sacred place (5).
- 7 Foreigner is artist — the best type (9).
- 8 Gang-leader about, at large (5).
- 14 Conclude a slab of clay is unproductive (9).
- 16 Food I'll be cooking that's essential for survival (4-3).
- 17 Cool-scam perhaps, which produces main hazards (9).
- 19 Rescue number of Romans held by barbarian (7).
- 20 Namely, one in fleet? Too right! (7).
- 21 Card showing where one's home is (5).
- 22 Money raised for auditor (5).
- 24 Kid I kept in farm building (5).

Concise crossword, page 19

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17412



Solution to Puzzle No 17406

KINGHOLE FLAGON
THAILAND PICNIC
EAGLE HUNTER
NEBULA
LONGSHOREMAN
DESSERTS
ROCKETS
COUNTRYGIRL
TWOSEVEN
SETTLE
STANDING
RUBBER
HAMMER
ADHERENT

Solution to Puzzle No 17411

PANTHERSACK
LIKEABIRD
LEARNICAR
EXODUS
MAGNETIC
SPARSELY
SERIE
KNIGHTERRANT

A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mr P W Humphreys, Heath Park Rd, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex; Mr J Kitchen, Wyckley Close, London SE3; Mrs M Airlie, St Andrew's Cres, Dartmouth, Devon; Mrs N Taylor, New North Rd, Reigate, Surrey; Mrs T Waters, Hanbury Rd, Dorridge, Solihull, Midlands.

Name

Address

WEATHER

General situation: An area of low pressure will remain slow-moving over Britain. Most areas will have brief sunny spells and showers, some heavy with the risk of thunder, especially over England and Wales. Some northern and eastern parts of Scotland will remain cloudy with rain at times and fog along eastern coasts. A rather cool day. Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Remaining showery and rather cool.

ABROAD

MONDAY	C	F	MONDAY	C	F
Madrid	12	54	London	12	54
Amsterdam	12	54	Paris	12	54
Brussels	12	54	Rome	12	54
Geneva	12	54	Venice	12	54
Zurich	12	54	Berlin	12	54
Frankfurt	12	54	Munich	12	54
Cologne	12	54	Düsseldorf	12	54
Dortmund	12	54	Essen	12	54
Duisburg	12	54	Wuppertal	12	54
Bochum	12	54	Bielefeld	12	54
Münster	12	54	Osnabrück	12	54
Regensburg	12	54	Salzburg	12	54
Stuttgart	12	54	Heidelberg	12	54
Freiburg	12	54	Karlsruhe	12	54
Basel	12	54	Basel	12	54
Geneva	12	54	Geneva	12	54
Lausanne	12	54	Lausanne	12	54
Paris	12	54	Paris	12	54
Brussels	12	54	Brussels	12	54
Amsterdam	12	54	Amsterdam	12	54
London	12	54	London	12	54
Madrid	12	54	Madrid	12	54
Barcelona	12	54	Barcelona	12	54
Valencia	12	54	Valencia	12	54
Seville	12	54	Seville	12	54
Granada	12	54	Granada	12	54
Malaga	12	54	Malaga	12	54
Cadix	12	54	Cadix	12	54
Algeciras	12	54	Algeciras	12	54
Algiers	12	54	Algiers	12	54
Tripoli	12	54	Tripoli	12	54
Bombay	12	54	Bombay	12	54
Calcutta	12	54	Calcutta	12	54
Rangoon	12	54	Rangoon	12	54
Manila	12	54	Manila	12	54
Hong Kong	12	54	Hong Kong	12	54
Shanghai	12	54	Shanghai	12	54
Beijing	12	54	Beijing	12	54
Tientsin	12	54	Tientsin	12	54
Peking	12	54	Peking	12	54
Harbin	12	54	Harbin	12	54
Qingdao	12	54	Qingdao	12	54
Tianjin	12	54	Tianjin	12	54
Yokohama	12	54	Yokohama	12	54
Osaka	12	54	Osaka	12	54
Kobe	12	54	Kobe	12	54
Yokohama	12	54	Yokohama	12	54
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Yokohama	12	54	Yokohama	12	54
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PART 2

SATURDAY JULY 18 1987

THE



TIMES

BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-36
SPORT 40-44

23

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1916.9 (-9.3)

FT-SE 100

2428.7 (-14.7)

Bargains

577.4 (61215)

USM (Datastream)

219.45 (+1.12)

THE POUND

US dollar

1.6100 (-0.0220)

W German mark

2.9906 (+0.0062)

Trade-weighted

73.2 (-0.3)

SE purge

on late

settlement

The Stock Exchange yesterday

announced a crackdown on

the rising number of unsettled

bargains after the "dramatic

increase" in turnover since

Big Bang.

"The (Stock Exchange)

Council's main concern is

with the business that remains

unsettled on more than one

account after the due settle-

ment date," Sir Nicholas

Goodison, the SE chairman,

said in a letter to the chairmen

of all member firms.

"The council has taken

powers to initiate buying-in

centrally, to force the settle-

ment of very old bargains,"

the letter adds. "Consider-

ation is also being given to

imposing fines in respect of

outstanding unsettled barg-

ains."

Citygrove call

Citygrove, the USM-quoted

specialist in developing out-

of-town shopping centres, is

seeking £3.5 million from its

shareholders. The money is

being raised through a placing

of shares on the basis of two

new shares for 11 already held.

The company expects to pay

an interim dividend of 1.5p.

Price puzzle

William Morris Fine Art, the

wallpaper making group, has

told the Stock Exchange it

knew of no reason for the

sharp rise in its share price

recently. The company added

that it had no knowledge of

anyone taking a stake of more

than 5 per cent.

Hambro buy

Thomas Robinson Group, the

engineer, is buying Hambro

Machinery, based in Notting-

ham, for £5 million through

the issue of 861,894 shares, of

which 811,988 shares will be

placed.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York

Dow Jones 2512.81 (+15.84)

Tokyo

Nikkei Dow 23983.46 (-20.18)

Hong Kong

Hong Kong 3342.13 (+36.31)

Hang Seng

Hang Seng 319.8 (+2.7)

Australia

Australia 1976.4 (+14.9)

Sydney

Sydney 1980.7 (+11.5)

Frankfurt

Frankfurt 1980.7 (+11.5)

Commerzbank

Commerzbank 1980.7 (+11.5)

General

General 413.8 (-2.0)

Paris

Paris 413.8 (-2.0)

Zurich

Zurich 557.00 (+5.50)

London

London 61.20 (+0.08)

FT 100

FT 100 2428.7 (-14.7)

Recent issues

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Closing prices

Closing prices 24

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FALLS

FALLS 24

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CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES 24

GOLD

GOLD 24

NORTH SEA OIL

NORTH SEA OIL 24

£282m takeover conditional on Hogg remaining one group

TSB launches bid for Hogg

By Colin Campbell

TSB, still flush with cash after its Stock Exchange flotation last October, yesterday launched its second large bid since going public. It made a conditional £282 million takeover bid for Hogg Robinson, the travel agency, insurance broker and financial services group, offering 600p a share cash, with a loan-note alternative.

TSB's condition is that Hogg Robinson scraps its plans to demerge and split in half - a motion to be put to Hogg Robinson shareholders at an extraordinary meeting on Monday week.

TSB has a 3.08 per cent interest in Hogg Robinson. Hogg Robinson snapped back last night that both the amount and the form of the offer were "totally inadequate and unacceptable."

It also rejected TSB's contention that the new companies resulting from the planned demerger faced an uncertain future as independent businesses.

Meanwhile, assuming TSB succeeds with its bid for Hogg Robinson, the bank has agreed to sell Hogg Robinson's insurance broking interests to Dewey Warren Holdings (in which Mr Robert Holmes à Court's Bell Group has a 42 per cent stake). The agreed

price was £116 million, and TSB would want cash.

This is the second banking-related development concerning Mr Holmes à Court this week. On Tuesday, he was appointed a group deputy chairman at Standard Chartered Bank in recognition of his 14.99 per cent stake, which makes him Standard's largest individual shareholder.

Hogg Robinson's shares rose 33p to 622p yesterday, and TSB's partly-paid shares

Tempus 25

were up 1 1/2p to 95p. The shares of Dewey Warren were suspended yesterday morning at 280p.

Dewey Warren said it would be making a two-for-one rights issue and use the additional financial muscle to broaden its interests in insurance broking and financial services.

As part of this strategy, Dewey Warren is to buy 6.69 million shares in Morgan Grenfell. This stake, in addition to its existing holdings, would give it 5.19 per cent in the merchant bank.

Mr David Thorn, TSB's deputy managing director, said there had been an approach by Sir John Read, the TSB chairman, to Mr Albert

Wheway, Hogg's chairman, earlier this year, but Hogg "had refused to meet and all about any dealings together."

TSB had then shelved its plan to take over Hogg Robinson, waiting for publication of Hogg Robinson's March year-end results before considering its next move.

Hogg Robinson, meanwhile, held talks with Guinness Peat, the banking, insurance and fund management group, hoping for a merger between their respective insurance interests. The talks were aborted.

The attractions of Hogg Robinson for TSB were its travel agency and growing estate agency business, with about 297 and 85 branches respectively, many with a high street presence and many in London and the South-east, which would give opportunities for development on the financial services front.

TSB did not have the necessary expertise within the insurance business, and was therefore willing to sell that operation to Dewey Warren.

TSB yesterday finalized its £227 million bid for Target, Britain's fourth-biggest unlinked life office, and recently agreed a £2 million takeover of Boston Factoring.



Unwelcome offer: Sir John Read, chairman of TSB

Court orders Ward to pay Guinness £5m

By Lawrence Lever

Guinness has won its High Court action against Mr Thomas Ward, a former director, to recover £5.2 million paid to him via a Jersey company after the takeover of Distillers last year.

The judge, Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, said that "Mr Ward has been and is wrongfully in possession of Guinness's money" and ruled that he must also pay almost £700,000 in interest in addition to the legal costs of Guinness.

He labelled the £5.2 million deal as "a secret agreement" and said that the "money has at all times been Guinness money."

The ruling boosts Guinness's quest to recover the £25 million unearthed by its auditors last November.

Payments totalling more than £8 million have already been returned and Mr Roger Wellings, of Herbert Smith, Guinness solicitors, said that Guinness was "actively pursuing" all the outstanding payments "one way or another."

While Mr Ward agreed yesterday to hand over \$2 million (£1.2 million) deposited with his solicitors immediately and transfer \$300,000 worth of investments and loans to Guinness, the balance is not instantly realizable.

For instance, it emerged yesterday that Guinness and Mr Ward are in dispute over a \$90,000 boat which Guinness claims he bought out of the £5.2 million.

Sir Nicolas refused a Guinness request for an injunction preventing Mr Ward disposing of the boat. Mr Ward maintains that the boat did not come out of the

£5.2 million. Both sides agreed to make further inquiries.

At the same time Mr Ward has already paid more than \$4.7 million of the money to the US tax authorities.

Mr Ward's counsel, Mr Peter Curry, QC, obtained leave to appeal against the judgment, and Mr Ward still has an outstanding claim against Guinness for a fair reward for the services he provided during the takeover of Distillers.

After the hearing, Mr Ward's solicitors said that there were other legal battles involving Guinness and Mr Ward which were also relevant to the £5.2 million dispute.

Guinness is suing Mr Ward in the US over a £750,000 flat in the Watergate complex in Washington, while Mr Ward's law practice, Ward Lazarus, is suing Guinness for unpaid fees.

Guinness in turn is claiming the return of vital legal documents from Ward Lazarus.

In yesterday's High Court ruling, Sir Nicolas said that Mr Ward had no defence to the Guinness claim for the £5.2 million because he had failed to disclose the payment to "a meeting of the directors" of Guinness in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act.

Mr Ward had also unsuccessfully claimed that Guinness could not have summary judgment against him since he was at least entitled to some reward.

The implication in our previous report (July 9) that the Vice-Chancellor was considering allegations by Guinness against Mr Ward of dishonesty and bad faith was inaccurate. The present action was concerned only with the question of a breach of fiduciary duty.

Saatchi sells stake in WPP Group for £8m

By John Bell, City Editor

Saatchi & Saatchi has sold its entire shareholding in the WPP Group for just over £8 million. The move follows pressure from Procter & Gamble, the US manufacturer of detergent and household products, which is one of Saatchi's biggest accounts.

It is believed that P&G was concerned over a potential conflict of interest, as one of its biggest rivals, Unilever, is a client of J Walter Thompson, now part of the WPP Group.

Saatchi & Saatchi bought shares in WPP some time after Mr Martin Sorrell, the group's former finance director,

moved into WPP in 1985.

Their holding was successfully placed yesterday by Panmure Gordon, the broker, with institutional investors in Britain, Europe and the US.

Around 1.6 million new nil-paid shares were sold for 28p each. These were shares to which Saatchi & Saatchi were entitled under the terms of the rights issue to fund the purchase of JWT.

The balance of the placing consisted of 840,000 old shares at 89p each. Market sources say the disposal has been expected for some time.

Olympia & York poised to rescue Canary Wharf

By Ray Heath

The cloud over the future of Canary Wharf, the London Docklands office complex, began to lift yesterday, as Olympia & York, the Canadian property company, poised itself to take control of the project.

The deal would mean a much diminished role for the members of the Canary Wharf Development Consortium which originated the concept. They are bankers Credit Suisse First Boston, Morgan Stanley and First Boston and Mr G Ware Travelstead, the United States developer.

Mr Paul Reichmann, one of the founding brothers of O&Y, said in London yesterday that his company would want complete control over the development of Canary Wharf, but there were likely to be few large changes to the futuristic 12 million sq ft project.

The key master building agreement was believed to be ready for signing yesterday but a few formalities remained. The signatories would be O&Y, First Boston and the London Docklands Development Board. Once the agreement is completed, construction on the site on the north of the Isle of Dogs can begin after delays which had raised concern that Canary Wharf would never take shape as originally planned.

Late last month Credit Suisse First Boston and Morgan Stanley were said to have pulled out as primary backers of the project, although were still interested in taking space.

The price that O&Y is prepared to pay to buy its way into the deal has not been

revealed, but would have to cover the costs incurred by the consortium in planning and administration, which are estimated to be about £80 million.

If it follows its past practice, O&Y will take on the full financing of the 72-acre development, expected to be about £3 billion. Mr Reichmann promised yesterday that his company could complete the scheme twice as fast as the original consortium.

It had originally been estimated that Canary Wharf would take between 10 and 15 years to complete, but Mr Reichmann said yesterday that five to seven years was realistic.

"We have a record of never having made a statement which was not kept exactly. All the projects we have announced have been done very fast," he said, and forecast that the first phase of 5 million sq ft could be ready in two years.

The signing of the of the agreement, which would commit O&Y to the first £1.8 billion phase, would be good news for the contractors commissioned by the consortium, Costain, John Laing, John Mowlem, Newarthall and Taylor Woodrow. Mr Reichmann said that as far as possible the original commitments would be honoured.

Mr Reichmann saw no problem in finding tenants for Canary Wharf. To attract tenants who would face difficulties in moving out of recently acquired accommodation, he said that O&Y was prepared to buy out their present leases if necessary.

Caledonia lifts stake in Close

By Cliff Feltham

The wealthy Cayzer shipping family is significantly lifting its stake in Close Brothers, the merchant banking and investment group.

Close yesterday announced a £24 million rights issue and a share placing with Caledonia Investments - the financial vehicle for the Cayzer family - which will double its stake to 22 per cent.

The deal comes soon after Caledonia disclosed plans to withdraw all but a small proportion of its long-standing investment in British & Commonwealth Holdings, the former shipping group the Cayzers helped create more than 25 years ago.

There is no suggestion, however, that Close Brothers will turn into an investment arm of the family. Mr Roderick Kent, Close Brothers' managing director, said: "Caledonia has indicated it does not intend to increase its shareholding significantly in the foreseeable future."

"We are very comfortable with the relationship. We look upon it more like a Mrs Thatcher and Mr Reagan special relationship."

The rights issue - which will be taken up in full by Caledonia and four other large shareholders - is on the basis of one new share at 205p for every four held.

There is an additional placing of 4.5 million shares at 250p each with Caledonia.

Close Brothers forecasts pretax profits of not less than £3.5 million for the present year, an increase of 33 per cent.

Mr Peter Buckley, chief executive of Caledonia and nephew of Lord Cayzer, said: "Our increased stake is in no way intended to restrict the independence of Close Brothers."

Demand for compact discs 'will cut price to under £10'

Nimbus plays a popular tune

By Edward Townsend

Industrial Correspondent

Compact disc videos of top popular recordings could be on sale in Britain at under £10 within the year.

Nimbus Records, the British company that has won 5 per cent of the world compact disc market in the last two years, said yesterday it will have a five-inch, five-minute combined video-audio CD on show in the all-important United States market by September and in Britain next year.

The privately-owned company is developing a large scale mastering lathes for compact disc video (CDV) for the production of eight-inch and 12-inch double-sided discs that will be capable of recording feature films. Philips and Sony are already producing so-called "combination players" for CDV.

The latest development marks another step forward for CD technology, which took off in the British market last year and now looks set to compete strongly against conventional vinyl long-playing records and half-inch video tapes.

With competition, particularly from Japan, growing in intensity, Nimbus this week announced 108 redundancies among the 500 workers at its Hereford-

shire and Gwent plants, a cut that the company yesterday blamed on "over-staffing" and the impact of continuing drives to increase productivity and efficiency.

Nimbus, a Queen's Award winner, which has its own recording label and a reputation for favouring classical music, claims to have been two years ahead of any other British competitor when it entered the world of CD production in 1984.

Now, in spite of the relatively high cost of CDs compared with LPs, the music world - including the crucial high volume popular music recorders - are beating a path to the doors of the CD makers. According to BIS Mackintosh, a market research consultancy, last year's world sales of CDs were 140 million and should rise to 300 million this year.

Almost 30 CD factories are planned for this year or next, mostly in Western Europe or North America, adding another 260 million units of capacity, and one forecast is that world demand will rise 12 times by the end of the decade and that by 1995 sales will have risen to 1.2 billion a year. Nimbus is investing \$10 million (£6.21 million) in a new factory in the shadow of the Blue Ridge

Mountains of Virginia in the US, financed by the United Bank of Virginia, and expects to be employing 250 people producing 20 million CDs by next summer.

Even more dramatic is the predicted surge in demand from business for compact disc technology in preference to traditional computer software for storage of information. CD for this purpose is forecast to rise from 1.6 million units this year to seven million in 1988 and 110 million in 1990.

The result of the big boom in CD demand, says Nimbus, should be a narrowing of the gap in prices between CDs and long playing records, with the CD price coming down this autumn to between £8.99 and £9.99 for original recordings.

Nimbus, founded by the professional singer Count Alexander Numa Labinsky and now owned by him and two brothers, Mr Michael and Mr Gerald Reynolds, both recording experts, has lifted its turnover from £500,000 three years ago to nearly £20 million this year, with exports rising from £73,000 in 1984 to £3 million last year. This year, the company is forecasting a pretax profit of £2.1 million.

£1bn gilt issue to be tendered

A new issue of £1 billion of short-dated gilt-edged stock, 8 per cent Treasury 1991, will be issued by tender next Wednesday at a minimum price of £97 1/4 per cent.

Share prices finished firm, helped by the pound's strong performance, although the market had been expecting tranches of existing stock rather than a full tender.

Traders concluded the relatively low yield at the minimum tender price implied prices would continue rising.

The stock will largely form part of next month's funding programme rather than that of this month. Only £20 per cent is payable at tender with the balance due on August 24.

Oppenheimer

Two year performance.

Trust	Percentage increase in value	Position in sector
Worldwide Recovery	+168.6	2nd
Income & Growth	+151.6	3rd
UK	+141.2	48th
Pacific	+120.0	14th
International	+111.1	13th
Practical	+108.3	1st
European	+105.2	16th
Japan	+104.6	31st
High Income	+76.9	15th
American	+23.4	46th

Over the two years to 13th July eight of our ten authorised unit trusts have more than doubled investors' money.

For further details about any of the above funds, telephone 01-489 1078 or write to Oppenheimer Trust Management Limited, Mercantile House, 66 Cannon St., London EC4N 6AE.



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STOCK MARKET

Allied-Lyons' placing raises £81m

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster.

Allied-Lyons, the food and drinks group, has raised about £81m (170 million (\$281 million)) following a placing of shares in North America with Canadian fund managers.

Under a cloak of secrecy, it has placed 17.7 million shares, or 2.5 per cent of its issued capital, with a number of Canadian institutions in Toronto and Montreal, at Can\$9.85, or 458p a share. The institutions have been asked to pay 60 per cent down, with the balance due next January. They will be able to trade the shares on the Toronto and Montreal stock markets via an instalment credit — a sort of unofficial ADR — on the basis of one-for-one. This placing is the first step in the group's plan to apply for a full listing on the Toronto stock exchange later this year.

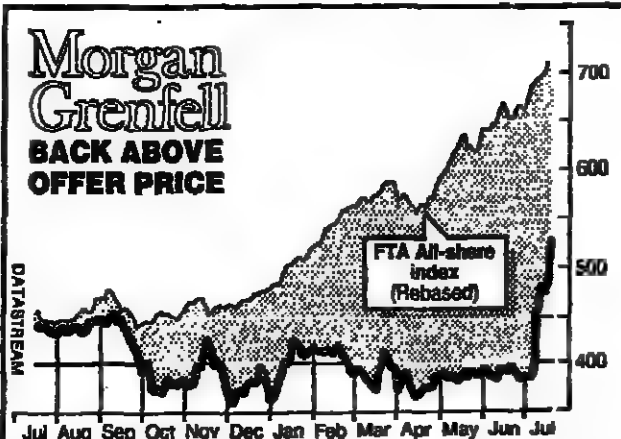
It is thought that Allied is unlikely to announce the deal until it has had time to publish a full prospectus for the institutions who have taken up the shares. However, it came to light thanks to some clever detective work by Mr Victor McColl, a drinks expert at Kleinwort's, who has been a close follower of Allied and quickly confirmed talk of the placing

which he had picked up from Kleinwort's New York office. He was not surprised by the deal which goes further in cementing Allied's relations with the Canadians after its acquisition of Hiram Walker, the Tia Maria, Courvoisier and Canadian Club group, for which it paid £1.25 billion in April.

As the deal was kept so carefully under wraps, Allied's share price finished all-square at 460p yesterday.

The rest of the drinks sector ran into early profit-taking but GEI International, the food group, was firm, rising by 1p to a fresh peak of 149p on the basis of one-for-one. This placing is the first step in the group's plan to apply for a full listing on the Toronto stock exchange later this year.

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sentiment was aggravated by vague reports of a large US acquisition and cash-call in the offering by ICI which left the shares 8p easier at 1.513p.

British Telecom, still reflecting the current state of criticism which has been aimed at its service to the public, fell by 7.5p to 293p, while Hawker dropped by 1.5p to 600p as speculators grew tired, awaiting the talk-of-a bid from BTR, Pilkington, due to be sub-divided shortly, fell by 1.2p to 1.048p.

Share prices rallied from their lowest levels of the day, however, with the FT-SE 100 index closing down 14.7 points at 2,428.7 after earlier being 24 points off. The FT 30 share index ended 9.3 points lower at 1,916.9.

Gilt-edged stocks moved narrowly in thin trading, recouping earlier falls of 1/4 following a recovery in the pound, while awaiting news of fresh Government funding — which materialized at £1 billion of Treasury, 8 per cent, 1991, offered at 89.25p. Investors will have to pay £20 down and the balance on August 24.

Shares of Morgan Grenfell, the beleaguered merchant bank, which dropped to a low of 360p in the wake of the Guinness and Geoffrey Collier affairs, moved above the original, 500p tender price for the first time since they were offered to the public in July last year.

The shares have been a firm market of late, boosted by the

Hill Samuel bid approach and the news that Shearson Lehman, the third largest US investment bank, has built up a near-5 per cent stake. Yesterday, they soared by another 42p to 529p on the announcement that Dewey Warren, the Lloyd's insurance broker controlled by Mr Robert Holmes a Court, had acquired a 5.19 per cent stake in the company.

Hill Samuel advanced by 9p to 689p, with dealers still bracing themselves for a 700p-a-share-plus agreed offer from the Union Bank of Switzerland next week.

Shares of Lord Weinstock's

Jaguar, the luxury car manufacturer, remained in top gear with a rise of 13p to 594p — making a two-day lead of 32p — helped by this week's bumper sales figures. County NatWest, the broker, expects pretax profits to rise from £120.8 million to £128 million this year — followed by £150 million.

GEC came within a whisker of their peak yesterday, climbing by 1p to 248p, against the market trend, on a turnover of well above 21 million shares, helped by renewed talk that the group was on the verge of spending some of its £1.5 billion "cash mountain" on a large US acquisition. Dealers

also remarked that the shares were a "charity buy."

Also in the electrical sector, STC, the telecommunications and computer group, retreated by 10p to 319p on profit-taking. Thursday's announcement that I.T.T. the US conglomerate, is talking with investment banks in London and New York about the possible sale of its remaining 34 per cent stake in STC was dampened yesterday by analysts' forecasts that a corporate bidder for the STC shareholding seems unlikely — particularly as no one made a move for the stock as it was climbing from the 1985 low of 78p.

STC's recent management reshuffle — which brought in the former GEC Marconi chief, Mr Arthur Walsh, as chief executive — led to suggestions that it was about to bid 180p a share for rival Ferranti.

Bernard Matthews, the Norfolk poultry producer, bounded by 30p to a peak of 205p as bid speculation intensified. There has been talk for the past couple of weeks that a bid from Heinz, the big US food group, was on the way. Matthews already has trading links with Heinz, which distributes its turkey products in Canada.

WALL STREET

Dow back above 2,500 level in early trading

New York (Agencies) — Shares moved forcefully above the 2,500 level — as measured by the Dow Jones industrial average — in early trading yesterday. The Dow average was up by 12.92 points to 2,509.89.

Trading was active. Analysts explained that the market was being driven higher by higher-than-expected profit reports. Shares also gained on a rise in the dollar against the yen. Philip Morris rose by 3 to 98 1/2 after Thursday's increase of 2 1/2. It plans to buy back 10 million of its own shares.

On Thursday, the Dow av-

erage closed 13.23 higher at a record 2,496.97 after briefly topping 2,500.

Higher US interest rates continue to weigh on housing starts and analysts do not expect any substantial improvement in the next few months. Housing starts in June fell by 0.7 per cent to a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of 1.59 million — almost exactly in line with the consensus estimate.

The second-quarter average of 1.61 million is lower than the figure of almost 1.8 million for the first.

AMR Co	69%	59%	Freddie	44%	30%	Papillon	38%	33%
Astra Life	61%	62%	Chicago	30%	43%	Pharmacia	71%	71%
Avaya	52%	53%	First Nat Group	58%	58%	Phelps Dodge	42%	41%
Avaya	52%	53%	First Nat Group	58%	58%	Phelps Dodge	42%	41%
Axis Chem	2%	2%	FT Wadsworth	38%	38%	Philips Int'l	18%	18%
Alcoa	36%	57	First Motor	107	106%	Polaroid	34%	34%
Alcoa	36%	57	First Motor	107	106%	Polaroid	34%	34%
AMV Health	41%	40%	GTE Co	38	38%	Procter & Gamble	94%	95%
Am Brands	49%	49%	Gen Co	109%	108	Public Svc Ent	47%	48
Am Brands	49%	49%	Gen Co	109%	108	Public Svc Ent	47%	48
Am Elex	27	26%	Gen Electric	55%	55%	Ryan's Master	39%	38
Am Elex	27	26%	Gen Electric	55%	55%	Ryan's Master	39%	38
Ampro	30	30	Gen Inst	38	38%	Safeway Inc	62%	62%
Ampro	30	30	Gen Inst	38	38%	Safeway Inc	62%	62%
Am Motors	4%	4%	Gen Motors	83%	84%	SFS Sopsac	51%	50%
Am Motors	4%	4%	Gen Motors	83%	84%	SFS Sopsac	51%	50%
Am Tech	21%	20%	Gen Tech Inc	10	10	Shawmut	49%	48%
Am Tech	21%	20%	Gen Tech Inc	10	10	Shawmut	49%	48%
Amoco Co	87%	87%	Geneco	5%	5%	Scott Paper	74%	73%
Amoco Co	87%	87%	Geneco	5%	5%	Scott Paper	74%	73%
Asarco Inc	30%	29	Goodrich	53%	50	Sealed Air	51%	51%
Asarco Inc	30%	29	Goodrich	53%	50	Sealed Air	51%	51%
At&T	96%	96%	Goodrich	53%	50	Sealed Air	51%	51%
At&T	96%	96%	Goodrich	53%	50	Sealed Air	51%	51%
Avco Prod	33%	34%	Goodyear	40%	40%	Shawmut	49%	48%
Avco Prod	33%	34%	Goodyear	40%	40%	Shawmut	49%	48%
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WALL STREET
back above 2,500
in early trading

Airline merger to prompt an inquiry on competition

By Colin Narborough

Government approval of the proposed merger between British Airways and British Caledonian would trigger a review of official policy governing competition between airlines, the Department of Transport said yesterday.

But a formal decision on whether to refer the £237 million deal to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission will only come after Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, submits his recommendation, probably within the next six weeks.

In Whitehall, meanwhile, Sir Gordon's advice is considered unlikely to persuade Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Trade and In-

dustry, of the need to make a referral under the Fair Trading Act.

The Department of Trade and Industry declined to comment on press reports yesterday that suggested a decision against a referral had already been reached.

The OFT's recommendation will come - conveniently for the Government - after Parliament breaks for the summer recess next Friday, reducing the scope for opposition to the merger to make political capital out of Lord Young's decision.

In the event of a referral, the MMC normally has six months in which to produce its report, but the complex issues raised by the merger

could mean an even longer wait.

After making a statement on the link-up in the Lords on Thursday, Lord Young declined to be drawn on the implications for competition policy, and whether non-referral would run counter to specific policy on airlines.

But policy was spelled out just before the general election when Mr Michael Spicer, the former Minister for Aviation, said in a Commons written reply that the Government remained committed to a "sound and competitive" airline industry. It opposed anti-competitive behaviour by either British or foreign airlines that affected this policy.

At the same time, he made clear that Britain had to have

the capability to face big international competition. The British civil aviation industry "should continue to include airlines strong enough to compete aggressively against foreign carriers," he said.

The need to create a British "mega-airline" to compete with the big US and Far Eastern operators is one of BA's main arguments for the B-Cal tie-up.

The review of airline policy, which would be the first since 1984, would look at all aspects of airport and competition policy. It would come against a radically changed background for the industry, as no airline competition issue has been raised on the scale of the latest merger plan for decades.

Nuclear power 'helps to cut cost'

The Government is not obsessed with the development of nuclear power to the exclusion of other sources of energy, Mr Michael Spicer, the Under-Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday.

Nuclear energy had to play its part economically and competitively alongside other sources of energy and this would come in the foreseeable future from fossil fuels, he told a Confederation of British Industry conference on nuclear energy in London.

But Mr Spicer acknowledged that nuclear power made an important contribution in keeping electricity costs down.

The Central Electricity Generating Board estimated last year that electricity prices would have had to rise by 15 per cent if it had not had access to its nuclear stations.

Lord Marshall, the chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, told the conference that delays and lengthy planning inquiries for the next generation of nuclear power stations would hit our manufacturing output.

He said 90 per cent of the contracts for work on the new Sizewell B pressurized water reactor had been won by British companies. "In any civilized country, orders would be placed before the end of the year for the next PWR at Hinkley Point and for a third PWR 12 months later," he said.

"That is what we ought to do to have a proper manufacturing base." Instead, Lord Marshall said he would have to tell the "excellent" firm that had won the Sizewell contract to wait three years to find out it would receive any work.

Lord Marshall also gave a warning that protests from anti-nuclear groups were threatening Britain's electricity supplies. The Friends of the Earth's challenge to the Government's decision to give the go-ahead to Sizewell would be heard in the Appeal Court next week.

"If we have to go through this for all our power stations we should not worry about whether we have economic electricity, we will be worrying about whether we have electricity at all," he added.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Canary Wharf deal - sunrise or sunset?

The appearance of the Reichmann brothers, like a red sky, is often an omen. In 1977 in New York, their arrival as buyers for Uris, a New York property group which had fallen on very lean times, signalled the beginning of the end of the worst property bear market since the Thirties. They strode in where others had hesitated or looked away - including our own Guardian Royal Exchange, which could have participated in a deal where the equity came free - and snapped up eight buildings in Manhattan for \$320 million (\$50 million of it in cash and the rest as assumption of debt). If it was not the "biggest single best real estate transaction ever," as one US property man later sighed, it must come close. \$4 billion is now a conservative estimate of what those properties became worth, \$2 billion the amount the brothers have already realized.

With the Reichmanns now poised to put Canary Wharf back on the rails, we will have to wait and see whether their arrival on these shores heralds the end of the bull market, or is yet another dawn for Docklands. Even with the present level of demand for office space in the City, the prospect of another 12 million sq ft of prime office space rising rapidly a short train ride from the Bank of England might give the property market pause for thought about future values. Those who say that 1973 cannot happen again because too many people remember 1973, include many who were not about in that fateful year.

If anyone can build Canary Wharf and fill it with tenants, it is the Reichmann brothers from Olympia & York. When the Japanese began to examine the possibility of expanding Tokyo's financial centre by building four islands in Tokyo Bay, they consulted Olympia & Yorkshire Developments Ltd. "Perhaps they were just being courteous," suggested Mr Paul Reichmann, one of the three brothers who control the Canadian property giant.

Mr Reichmann, aged 57, and brothers Albert and Ralph, have built their Toronto company up from an importer of building materials in 1955 into Canada's third-largest corporation with three main arms - property, materials manufacturing and investments.

It is still run as a family business, with the three brothers in direct control of the group's main developments. Like many families, they do not like outsiders peering too deeply into their affairs. How much is O&Y worth? Mr Reich-

mann prefers not to speculate. Press reports of US\$20 billion he dismisses as guesswork.

O&Y's flagship development, Battery Park City, in New York, was regarded as a huge gamble at the end of the last decade. Today it houses the World Financial Centre, and American Express, Merrill Lynch, Dow Jones and Oppenheimer are among the financial institutions which have their headquarters in the architecturally acclaimed waterfront complex. It augurs well for Canary Wharf.

Enter John Gunn

Mercantile House had strayed from the path of virtue in many ways. Its forecast of £40 million profits for the year to last April, only slightly more than half the previous year's level, says it all. The way forward for a house that cannot make a headway in the most spectacular of bull markets is unclear indeed.

Enter John Gunn, chairman of British & Commonwealth and purchaser of Mercantile for £490 million. Mr Gunn does not fit into any neat pigeon-hole and certainly intends to forsake, for the time being, the mainstream securities businesses which proved so tough for Mercantile and others since Big Bang. His approach to building B&C will be to go for the low-risk areas such as fund management with Gartmore and the newcomer from Mercantile, Oppenheimer. As well as buying from Mercantile, the business of his choice, Gunn has an opportunity to show his dealing skills and it may well be that, if he is as good at selling businesses as he has been at buying them, they may reduce the net cost of Oppenheimer to very modest levels indeed.

Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank is being sold to Credit Lyonnais for £75 million, while the two high-quality money-broking operations might fetch £300 million to £350 million.

Gunn has set a course chosen deliberately to avoid a confrontation with the same juggernauts of the securities business which made life tough for Mercantile and would have made it tougher still. B&C will be a collection of niche businesses, seeking areas away from the mainstream. The City knows too well that there would have been far more casualties post-Big Bang but for the fair wind provided by the bull market. It, therefore, sees in Gunn someone likely to benefit both from his own good decisions and the bad ones of others.

Societies take £556m in June

By Peter Gartland, Family Money Editor

The latest figures from Britain's building societies published yesterday showed a rise in net receipts to £556 million in June.

Net receipts represent the difference between retail receipts and withdrawals. The June net receipt figure is up from the May total of £521 million and shows a considerable increase on the June 1986 figure of £177 million.

Mr Mark Boleat, the director-general of the Building Societies Association called the latest result a very creditable performance and said that despite competitive pressures, the societies had maintained a stable inflow of funds during the first six months of 1987.

Net new mortgage commitments of £3.4 billion in June were the highest this year while mortgage advances of £3.16 billion marked the first time in 1987 that this figure has exceeded £3 billion.

In recent years building societies have made use of the

wholesale money markets in addition to attracting savings from individual investors.

In June there was a net outflow of £42 million of wholesale money from the societies. Although this is the first time there has been a wholesale money outflow since February 1986, Mr Boleat says this is not significant.

Nevertheless, the societies are hoping to get permission to increase the amount of money they can raise from wholesale sources.

The Building Societies Act currently limits them to 20 per cent of the total money raised. Mr Tony Slough-Harris, the chairman of the BSA, said yesterday that he hoped the present limit would be raised to 30 per cent from January 1.

A detailed submission putting the case for greater access to the wholesale markets is being prepared for consideration in September by the Building Societies Commission.



Mark Boleat: looking for more money from the markets

GM Firth profits hit record £3m

Pretax profits at GM Firth, the Bradford steel stockholder, advanced by 25 per cent from £2.48 million to a record £3.10 million in the year to March 31. The rise was achieved despite a disappointing result from Porter Chadburn, Firth's 65 per cent-owned subsidiary.

Mr Ian Wasserman, the chairman, says he is confident of another substantial increase in profitability in the present year.

Turnover rose by 24 per cent from £50.05 million to £61.60 million in the past year. Tax increased from £893,000 to £1.08 million, leaving net profit up from £1.58 million to £2.02 million. Earnings per share improved from 4.36p to 5.68p.

The final dividend is raised from 0.55p to 1.0p, payable on

October 2, lifting the net total from 1.0p to 1.5p a share.

Mr Wasserman reported that pretax profits of Porter Chadburn dropped from £506,000 to £352,000.

Mr Wasserman added that the Charles Wade division, which had its first full year of trading, did not trade satisfactorily and changes were made at senior management level in January. There has been "a marked improvement in their profitability" since then, he said.

"Despite increasing price competition, record profits were achieved by the furnishing, flooring and fittings division. A useful contribution was made by the transport division and by the disposal of our property portfolio at Hove."

Dublin in tax-free securities offer

Dublin (Reuters) - The Irish government, eager to make tempting investment offers to the 900 foreign companies whose annual profits in Ireland total £1 billion (£900 million), is launching a tax-exempt securities scheme.

Mr Ray MacSharry, the finance minister, said foreign-owned companies in Ireland can now "have the choice and the opportunity of putting their surplus cash to work in Ireland."

The first issue will be on July 30 and the securities will take the form of notes sold through three banks - Allied Irish Banks, Bank of Ireland and Citibank.

The securities will be sold by tender and on the basis of direct offers submitted by the qualifying companies. The

notes will be interest bearing, issued at par and with a maturity of not less than one month.

The minimum denomination for the securities is £250,000 (£155,279) or the equivalent in pounds, European currency units and other currencies and they must be held until maturity by the purchaser.

Mr MacSharry, explaining the liquidity terms, said there would be provision for early redemption of notes issued through the tender system of competitive bids.

Interest on the securities will be exempt from corporation tax, at present 10 per cent for foreign companies.

Foreign companies employ about 80,000 of Ireland's manufacturing workforce of 200,000.

TEMPUS

TSB could be star of Hogg show

Hogg Robinson Group may well feel that TSB is behaving like a spoilt-sport at a party by slapping in a 600p a share bid and so threatening its plans, a long time in the making and up for consideration by shareholders at an extraordinary meeting next Monday week, to split itself in half.

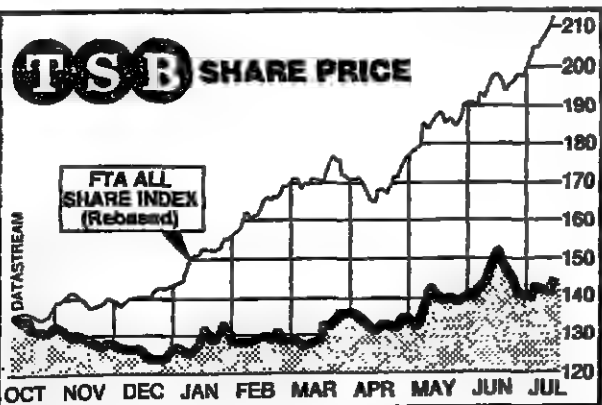
But faced with a choice of cash in the hand - and at 600p too, when their shares not so long ago stood at 375p - or having to take out their cheque books and follow two separate shares, they could find the TSB offer tempting.

Given that Hogg Robinson is now on the defensive, and wanted, the prospects of a counter bid cannot be ruled out. If so, TSB could well come back with an even higher bid.

Hogg Robinson (without the insurance arm, due to be sold to Dewey Warren) appears to fit very nicely into TSB's game plan, and the group has the cash pile to bid for what it wants.

TSB shareholders, meanwhile, can only clap that their cash-rich group is still seen to be going out shopping - not just for the sake of it, but with the clear objective of diversifying assets. Any move away from Third World debt problems is to be welcomed. The recent purchase of Target Group is one example.

Nothing bores shareholders as much as a group with too much cash, and a spread away from banking activities (which account for 54 per cent of earnings at present) would give TSB the chance of being more widely appreciated for its non-banking interests.



will move out of its rut, although that could prove a slow process.

Hogg Robinson shareholders have an interesting week ahead, and yesterday the price moved well ahead of 600p, suggesting there could be some gatecrashers about. One way or another, it is still going to be some party.

Banking

During the next few weeks the banking world will know just how the other half of our top clearing banks has decided to tackle the problem of its Third World loan books. NatWest, which has provided an extra £466 million, and Midland (an additional £916 million) have faced reality. Barclays and Lloyds have kept shareholders waiting until the half-time profits statement.

Lloyds has the heaviest exposure, thanks to its historically strong ties with Latin America. Analysts differ in their estimates of just how far Lloyds will go towards making a full provision of 25 per cent to 30 per cent of its Third World debt. But at Hoare Govett, the broker, it is thought that close on £850 million is needed to do the job fully.

Will Lloyds follow the

NatWest line and take the provisions on the chin, as an exceptional item through the profit and loss account? Or will it follow the flexible approach demonstrated by Midland, which changed tack and this year took £916 million of provisions below the line? That would probably involve a reported pre-tax loss of £475 million at the half year.

Were Barclays to provide at the same rate it would have to charge £400 million or more. If South African lending was included. All told this would raise the level of provision for extra less developed countries' debt to £2.5 billion by the four leading clearing banks.

With the pain behind them, the clearers should be able to look forward to a relaxing

Park Food

As long as Christmas remains on the calendar and is not privatized, the future looks pretty rosy for the country's largest supplier of Yuletide hampers, the Merseyside Park Food Group.

The company sells more than one million hampers, costing between £25 and £150 each. The money is collected in instalments by the company's well-trained band of

45,000 agents and, although competitors have moved in on the business, Park Food remains the pre-eminent force.

The full-year results, announced yesterday, show that pretax profits went up 15 per cent to £2.6 million. This was what most City analysts, having watched the company's determined growth since its arrival on the market in 1983, had been expecting.

The share price managed a 5p improvement to 308p in a tight market because of the family's 70 per cent controlling stake.

Earnings per share were up 33 per cent at 16.50p and a final dividend of 3.25p makes a total of 4.8p for the year, a rise of 14 per cent.

Not all Park Food's other ventures are running quite as smoothly as the hamper business. Bee & Cee Foods lost money on its frozen food distribution activities last year. But the problem areas have been shut down, with the rest being merged with the Everfresh distribution company, acquired from Guinness.

Millstone, which sells pre-packed sandwiches to large high street stores, is still not achieving satisfactory results while Matchless, the food powder company, has seen an increase in volume although there is still more to aim for.

On the non-food side, the company is pleased with the performance of Jetlag, the airline travel kit supplier, and Lamb & Watt, the wine merchants.



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Send to: Jonathon Hall, TR Industrial and General Trust PLC, Mermaid House, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. Tel: 01-256 6565.

Please send me a copy of the TR Industrial and General Trust PLC Annual Report. ☐

I would also like details of the Touche Remnant Investment Trust Savings Scheme. ☐

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TR INDUSTRIAL AND GENERAL TRUST PLC

The table contains financial data for various investment funds, organized into columns. Each column represents a different fund or category. The rows list various metrics such as assets, liabilities, and performance indicators. The data is presented in a structured, tabular format, typical of financial reports or prospectuses.

[illegible]

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your daily share price movements on this page. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Dividend
1	Scottish (Lift)	Paper, Print, Adv	100
2	Mon Bros	Drugs, Stores	100
3	Lee Cooper	Drugs, Stores	100
4	Brookley Law	Industrials A-D	100
5	Reliance	Property	100
6	Five Oaks	Property	100
7	Tip Top Drug	Drugs, Stores	100
8	AAH	Industrials A-D	100
9	Abbey	Building, Roads	100
10	Julian's Hides	Leisure	100
11	Parfume	Property	100
12	Evans of Leeds	Property	100
13	Wentworth	Motor, Aircraft	100
14	Ellis & Goldstein	Drugs, Stores	100
15	Wimbor	Bank, Discount	100
16	Seaton	Industrials S-Z	100
17	Trevor Ramage	Food	100
18	Stuart's	Drugs, Stores	100
19	Diocese Gap (as)	Drugs, Stores	100
20	Alman	Industrials A-D	100
21	Brumby	Paper, Print, Adv	100
22	Derby	Industrials A-D	100
23	TI	Industrials S-Z	100
24	Hamble Country	Property	100
25	Hampden Ind	Industrials E-K	100
26	Domco	Electrical	100
27	Johnson Borne	Industrials E-K	100
28	Heads Motor	Motor, Aircraft	100
29	Metal Closures	Industrials L-R	100
30	Ferrari	Electrical	100
31	Park Foods	Food	100
32	Alcon	Drugs, Stores	100
33	Dever	Industrials A-D	100
34	Cotton Eng	Industrials E-K	100
35	Marshall	Property	100
36	Country '97	Property	100
37	Chryslers	Leisure	100
38	Hardanger	Property	100
39	Ascher Chemical	Chemicals, Plastics	100
40	Alpine Drinks	Food	100
41	Black Arrow	Industrials A-D	100
42	Cape Ind	Industrials A-D	100
43	Nat Aust Bk	Bank, Discount	100
44	Wilsons	Building, Roads	100

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

UNDATED

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

INDEX LINKED

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

ELECTRICALE

100p
No. Last Bid. No. Chgs. No. Bid. No. Offer

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Investors take profits

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 13. Dealings end July 24. Contango day July 27. Settlement day August 3.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 28)

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25	Hampden Ind	Industrials E-K	100
26	Domco	Electrical	100
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28	Heads Motor	Motor, Aircraft	100
29	Metal Closures	Industrials L-R	100
30	Ferrari	Electrical	100
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34	Cotton Eng	Industrials E-K	100
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54	Ellis & Goldstein	Drugs, Stores	100
55	Wimbor	Bank, Discount	100
56	Seaton	Industrials S-Z	100
57	Trevor Ramage	Food	100
58	Stuart's	Drugs, Stores	100
59	Diocese Gap (as)	Drugs, Stores	100
60	Alman	Industrials A-D	100
61	Wentworth	Motor, Aircraft	100
62	Ellis & Goldstein	Drugs, Stores	100
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97	Trevor Ramage	Food	100
98	Stuart's	Drugs, Stores	100
99	Diocese Gap (as)	Drugs, Stores	100
100	Alman	Industrials A-D	100

Chemicals, Plastics

Nowadays, more people are looking for investment plans which allow savings to be increased at a later date, when personal finances allow. And they want the facility to take the policy proceeds whenever they like, once it's matured.

Ecclesiastical Life has just such a policy — the Flexible Investor Plan. It's designed for everyone aged 50 or under with special terms for ladies, but primarily to mature just before your 65th birthday.

A SAVINGS PLAN THAT MOVES WITH THE TIMES

Simply, you can cash in anytime after only 10 years. Or you can increase your investment to give you even more benefits. Or stay with the same investments, right until you're 65, if you wish. You can even cash some units and leave the remainder to grow.

You get a guaranteed return, plus a share in the profits of the Ecclesiastical Life Fund, full life cover and cash payouts free of any Income or Capital Gains Taxes. It gives you real flexibility. The decisions are yours. Clip the coupon and get the full facts.

Or 'phone Gloucester (0452) 28533 and ask for Customer Services.



Ecclesiastical
INSURANCE YOU CAN BELIEVE IN
Ecclesiastical Insurance Group

Ecclesiastical Life
FREEPOST (GR1717) Gloucester GL1 1BR.

Please tell me more about the Flexible Investor Plan.

Name Mr/Mrs/Ms

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Age

TT 18/7

Radio call for debt counselling

The Radio 4 programme *You and Yours* has launched a campaign to persuade consumer lenders to finance a debt counselling scheme. The idea is based on American experience whereby debt counselling services are financed by commission deducted from debt recovery.

The organizers of a scheme that *You and Yours* investigated in Pittsburgh found that consumer lenders were quite willing to support debt counselling on the grounds that they much preferred to recover debts minus a commission than no debts at all. The Finance Houses Association (FHA) has expressed interest in supporting the *You and Yours* initiative.

Meanwhile the FHA this week launched a code of practice designed to protect the rights of people buying goods on credit.

Finance houses' loans to consumers include hire purchase for purchasers of cars and other consumer durables as well as personal loans for home improvement. Finance houses are also active in the second mortgage market.

The code has been prompted by the rapid rise in consumer credit and the problems of bad debts. It requires finance houses to ensure that debt collection procedures conform to the highest ethical standards and to encourage consumers in financial difficulty to report the problem immediately to the lender.

The code urges lenders to ensure that advertisements or agreements

relating to loans secured on consumers' homes contain clear statements to that effect. The code does not cover the rate of interest that a lender may charge. The FHA says this is a commercial matter for individual lenders.

The code has been welcomed by the Government and by the Office of Fair Trading.

The £500 million agreed takeover of Mercantile House by British & Commonwealth will have no immediate effect on investors in the 10 Oppenheimer unit trusts which form part of Mercantile's investment management.

This view is stressed by Paul Myrers, chairman of Garmore Fund Managers (part of British & Commonwealth), who will take over responsibility for the Oppenheimer funds. Mr Myrers says that in the short term the Oppenheimer funds will continue to be run by the same managers. Over a longer period there will undoubtedly be a case for merging some of the Oppenheimer funds into the £2 Garmore funds, where there is a duplication of investment aims.



ALAN'S OFF TO SEE HIS BANK MANAGER TODAY SO HE'S TELLING HIS SOUNDS IN THE BATH ROOM KITCHEN...

The coming together of Garmore and Oppenheimer unit trusts will contribute towards the creation of one of the 10 biggest unit trusts and mutual fund groups, not only in the UK but also globally.

Apart from the impressive size of the deal, Oppenheimer unit trust investors will be as much interested in whether Garmore's influence will improve Oppenheimer's appalling administration and slow payment to investors who redeem units.

Two new books on the Business Expansion Scheme, which gives generous tax breaks to investors, have been published. Both are aimed more at the business end of the market — accountants and solicitors and people who may be considering setting up a BES COMPANY.

Opportunities under the BES is written by the tax expert Patrick Way, a partner at solicitors Nabarro Nathanson. It is written in a very accessible and authoritative question-and-answer form. It is published by Longman at £17.50.

A second edition of the excellent Chartered book on the Business Expansion Scheme, written by the chartered accountant Brian Ambridge, was published this week. It is published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants and costs £14.95.

The Stock Exchange is setting up a club for small investors. They will pay £15 a year to belong to the Stock Exchange Investors' Club and will receive a quarterly newsletter giving up-to-date advice on a whole range of investment affairs. The Stock Exchange insisted this week that the club will not be telling investors which shares to buy.



WE'D LIKE SOME MURIELLE CUISINE AT THE VIEILLE PRICE...

But it will be organizing special events for members, such as meetings with stockbrokers. Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the International Stock Exchange, said: "We have always supported the principle of wider share ownership. We now want to remove the mystique of share ownership, to spread the word about how to buy and sell shares, and to help people to learn more of the way in which investment works."

For full details about the club, write to The Wider Share Ownership Unit, The International Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HP.

A new unit-linked life company plans to start business in the UK next month.

Interlife Assurance will be financed by insurance groups from Greece, West Germany and Sweden that have invested a total of £5 million as share capital. Interlife will be run by two former Skandia Life directors.

Interlife will offer a range of protection, savings and pension plans both in the UK and later in Europe. Investment managers will be Kleinwort Graveson.

How forex dealers swing your pound

Currency rates affect both the cost of your holiday and the value of overseas investments, writes John Roberts.

Exchange rates can even change during a two-week holiday by as much as they used to change in a year. And, of course, fluctuations in cur-

rency rates can affect the price of an overseas unit trust, the value of an overseas timeshare and the performance of currency funds.

Currencies move, one to another, out of all proportion to the changing patterns of trade between countries. So how much your holiday pound will buy, how much your overseas investments are worth, and — less obviously — the level of your mortgage payments (because interest rates may be raised to defend the pound) appear to depend on the activities of young men paid reputedly enviable salaries for lightning arithmetic shouted down the telephone.

Who are the foreign exchange dealers? What are they really like?

"You've got to be a character to succeed," says Trevor Cass, in charge of foreign exchange dealing at Barclays Bank. "Foreign exchange dealers come from all walks of life, from public school to council school. They're not intellectuals and usually not university-educated."

Mr Cass himself left Westcliff High School in Essex after one of the grammar school's two sixth-form years. But wherever they come from, the forex dealers have certain traits in common.

Mr Cass explains: "It's not just that they're hungry and ambitious, a bit cynical and quite pragmatic, but also that while an intellectual will be very analytical, forex dealers know that by the time they've weighed the pros and cons it's irrelevant. The market has gone away from you."

"So the dealers have to be able to see clearly through the fog of confusing information and cut straight through to the market truths."

"And all the guys on the dealing desk need to feel they're good. They need to feel they're the best. They need their egos massaged. They lap up praise. They're insecure. Each day they come in they have to prove themselves all over again."

"But above all else in this business they have to be honest. Yes, I know that sounds obvious, but it's not just honesty in dealing with the bank's money. You have to be honest with yourself here. If you get it wrong you've got to be able to admit, 'I mucked it up. I've got to trade myself out of this position'. You can't kid yourself because all you'll do is make even bigger losses."

Mr Cass believes that the biggest misconception the public have about foreign exchange dealing is that it is always profitable. "People don't realize how fast the market moves," he says. "The pound can move up or down a cent against the dollar within two hours. In a deal worth £2 million, that's a lot of money you're making. Or losing."



Deciding the fortunes of your money: dealers in the City

Microsecond reflexes in mental arithmetic are also apparently a myth. A forex dealer has to be comfortable with figures but relies on electronic machinery for actual calculations.

An essential asset is stamina. Mr Cass and his team begin work at 7am. They finish somewhere around 6pm but any dealer of consequence has authority to deal from home, and does.

"You have to be on top of this job," Mr Cass explains. "If something is happening in Australia in the middle of the night here, you've got to know about it and be ready to deal. No good waiting until the next morning."

The pioneer instinct reaps great rewards

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Some of the choices are not always obvious. Naturally the buoyant Hong Kong market is currently the largest single represented market and accounts for 23.6% of the portfolio, but 3.8% is invested in Taiwan and 1.6% in China itself. Singapore is one of the top performing markets this year and accounts for 4% of the portfolio. The Latin American countries also offer interesting investment opportunities and 4.3% is invested there.

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*Source: IDC Opal. Offer to offer net income reinvested. 16th July 1987.

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Why the insurers are wary

CLAIMS

The Safe Deposit Centre in Knightsbridge offers its clients "the ultimate protection" for their valuables, according to the company's brochure.

Last weekend the ultimate protection was clearly no match for a sawn-off shotgun.

And such is the nature of safe deposits that no one will ever know exactly how much was stolen.

A spokesman for one large insurance company said: "It's a very dicey area, this. The police know too well that safe deposit boxes are often used to hide ill-gotten gains. So you will never get everyone to come forward."

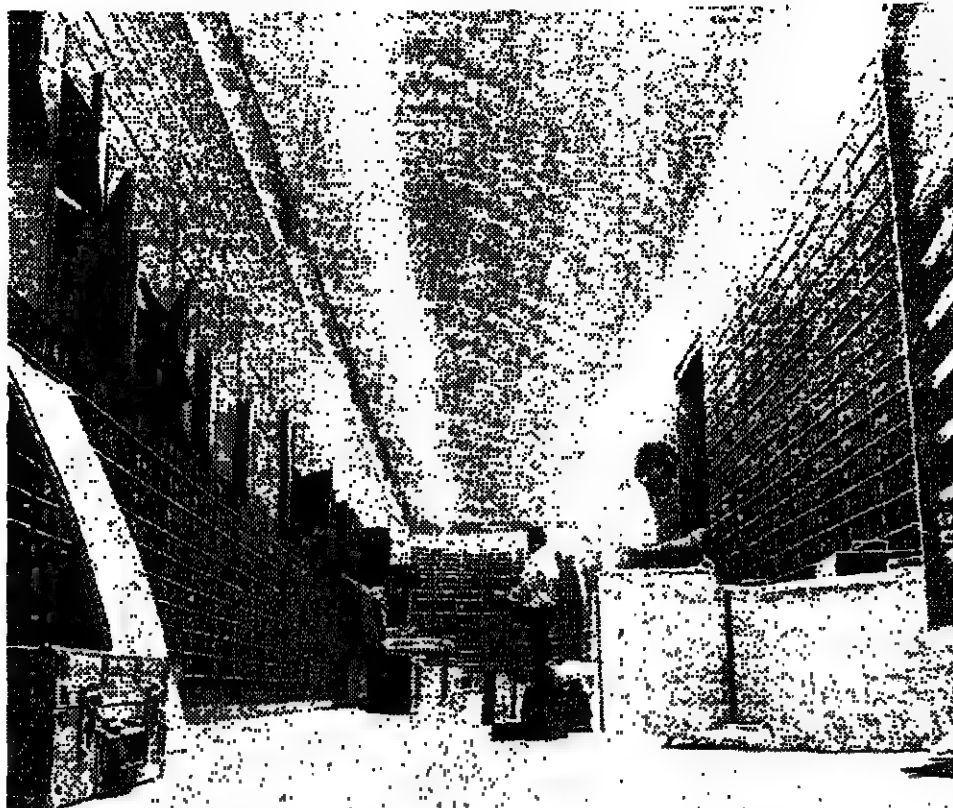
The insurance companies have always been a little wary of covering safe deposit centres because they are effectively being asked to insure something they know absolutely nothing about.

The centre at Knightsbridge was unusual in that it offered a package to clients that included £25,000 worth of insurance, arranged through a Lloyd's of London broker.

"Your insurance costs slashed," said the brochure. But unless they made their own insurance arrangements, some of the victims of this robbery must still face heavy losses.

Although a bank is liable if it is robbed of its normal over-the-counter cash deposits, it bears no such liability for safe deposits, where the depositor retains ownership and is solely responsible for insurance.

The major commercial insurers are naturally reluctant to get involved in this area because it leaves them open to fraudulent claims. If the depositor is under no obligation to disclose the contents of the box, how does the



Aftermath of the Knightsbridge raid: The full damage to the depositors may never be known

insurer establish what was in there to settle a claim?

One insurance company claims man comments: "All they would have to do is produce a receipt for a particular item and the insurance

Depositor must organize cover

company would have to pay their claim."

For the vast majority of people who use safe deposit boxes, the one practical method of insuring precious items is to extend their house contents policy to include jewellery, for example, on an all-risks basis.

Policyholders will normally be given a substantial discount if the valuables are to be kept in a bank safe or a safe deposit box. But if the jewels are taken out of the box to be worn at a party, and they are lost or stolen, the insurance company would meet the claim.

National Westminster, Barclays and Midland banks all have safe deposit centres, but because it is the depositor's responsibility to organize his own insurance, they have no indication of how many of their clients are actually insured.

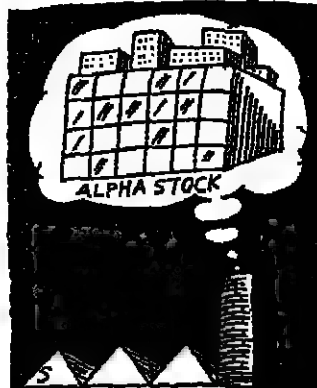
Lloyds Bank, whose Holborn strongroom was robbed of an estimated £50 million in 1982, no longer offers a safe

deposit service. Asked whether the robbery at Knightsbridge would cause them to review their security, the banks were understandably non-committal, except to say that the matter was under constant review.

The Association of British Insurers says that the raid at Knightsbridge is unlikely to have any effect on premiums for safe deposit boxes, because some of the boxes will have been insured by foreign insurance companies and others will not have been insured at all over and above the blanket cover provided by the safe deposit company.

Richard Newell

Letters, status symbols of your stocks



A whole new set of incomprehensible terms and classifications emerged with Big Bang, making it harder than usual to interpret the titbits of information seeping out of the Square Mile.

One such series is the classification of shares into Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta stocks. But this merely refers to the share's status and the degree of disclosure required after every market transaction.

The ranking is determined partly on market capitalization but, more importantly, on the number of market-makers making prices - quoting buying and selling prices on a regular basis at which it is possible to deal.

The alphabetical classifications also influence the number of shares it is possible to buy at one time and the overall level of trading activity.

One aim behind the move to deregulate the City was to increase the amount of investor protection. Before Big Bang, it was difficult, if not impossible, for investors to establish whether their "trade" had been carried out at the best available price. Being told that "my word is my bond" provided little comfort to those who felt they had received a poor service.

In terms of improving the market's reputation and increasing investors' confidence, therefore, the move shares on which full disclosure is required, the better.

To be an Alpha stock is the dream of most up-and-coming companies. To achieve this, quarterly turnover needs to be more than £100 million and market capitalization at least £625 million. At the time of Big Bang, 10 market-makers were required but this has been reduced to eight.

Full disclosure is demanded for Alpha stocks so that the price of every deal is recorded on a ticker-tape within four minutes of being struck. A running total of volume in every share is updated throughout the day.

Whether the shares were bought or sold is omitted, but the information enables both the other market-makers and the investors to keep in touch with the market's movements.

Shares involved in contested take-over bids are conferred

with temporary Alpha stock status, but even so the category has grown fast since Big Bang - the number included is up from 62 to 104.

Those who do not make the grade receive the Beta label. Four out of the minimum six market-makers must be prepared to deal definitely at the price and size indicated on their SEAO screens (Stock Exchange Automated Quotations) but the trades and their details do not have to be recorded publicly on a ticker-tape. Volume figures are available the next day, however. The category has swollen from 427 at Big Bang to 543 now.

The main difference between Beta and Gamma stocks is that the requisite two market-makers have to quote only indicative prices in the minimum 1,000 shares. However, if a quote for a larger number of shares is made, this is immediately deemed to be a firm price. About 1,500 securities fall into this category.

The stocks with which the unsuspecting investor must take the greatest care are those with a Delta classification. They need only one market-maker but are not quoted on SEAO. Dealing is done by negotiation, often with little way of establishing whether the price being suggested is fair. Around 2,200 securities have a Delta classification.

Full disclosure has had benefits

Shares can move up from one category to the other if they attract additional market-makers and vice versa. It is in the investors' interests, however, for an increasing number of shares to be classified as Alpha or, at worst, Beta, as this will lead to their being better protected.

Before Big Bang, many prospective market-makers feared that classifying shares in this way would dampen traders' enthusiasm and depress volume. But on the contrary, full disclosure appears to have made the market operate more smoothly while removing the image that effective trading on the Stock Exchange is the preserve of a select few.

Alexandra Jackson

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Aids, the new risk factor

INSURANCE

Dr Tom Waddell, a homosexual American, died this week at the age of 49. Like thousands of other fun-loving American males, he was a victim of Aids.

Unlike his compatriots, however, Dr Waddell — a former Olympic athlete who founded the Gay Games — was the sort of homosexual who puts the life insurance industry into a cold sweat. He was married.

It is not known whether Dr Waddell had a life insurance policy. But the very fact that he was married meant that, in Britain, he would have escaped the more searching inquiries of actuaries and underwriters.

Since July 1986, all British insurance companies have included a question about Aids on their proposal forms.

Last week, the Guardian Royal Exchange went one step further. It produced a supplementary questionnaire that all single men aged between 18 and 65 will have to complete if they want the company to write a policy.

'We're not concerned with lifestyles'

The question asks whether they belong to any of the high-risk Aids groups and whether they have ever sought advice or treatment for Aids, an Aids-related condition or any sexually transmitted disease, including hepatitis B.

GRE is the first company to request such information directly from potential policyholders, although Mercantile & General, a company that provides insurance for insurers but does not deal directly with the public, has been asking client companies some pertinent questions for weeks.

Significantly, perhaps, GRE has a joint venture in the United States, where Aids has cut a costly swathe through wealthy and often well insured gay communities, especially on the West Coast.



Andrew O'Leary: "few friends"



Geoffrey Nunn: "scusable"

The company is at pains to point out that it is not passing a moral judgment on homosexuals. Geoffrey Nunn, the chief actuary, says: "We are not concerned with a person's lifestyle. Our inquiries are motivated by commercial considerations. It is a case of taking sensible action now to protect the interests of all policyholders."

GRE insists that applications from high-risk groups will not necessarily be rejected. But homosexuals have assumed, probably correctly, that life cover will be increasingly difficult to acquire.

Although only a handful of people have refused to answer the specific Aids questions introduced since last July, there are signs that homosexuals have learned to tailor their replies.

Non-disclosure would, of course, provide grounds for an insurer to declare a policy null and void. But, as Robert Harman, of insurance company National Provident Institution, observes, it is extremely difficult to prove non-disclosure.

"The insurance industry depends on trust," he said, "and we simply don't know whether a person is telling the truth. But, by asking a question, we place the onus on the person

applying for cover to answer it honestly. If the information turns out to be incorrect, or the applicant has withheld information, that would be a breach of trust and the policy could well be declared null and void."

NPI has rejected very few applications since the question about Aids was introduced. But it has noted that some applications have been withdrawn as the company pursued its inquiries.

This has given rise to suggestions that Aids victims — encouraged by gay rights groups and, in some cases, by less than honest brokers — are beginning to play the insurance market.

Although evidence is hard to come by, the suspicion is that high-risk groups are applying to several companies simultaneously for small amounts of cover. This would allow them to be circumspect about their health and, most importantly, avoid inquiries that might lead to a medical examination.

Andrew O'Leary, chief actuary of Clerical Medical, thinks the industry might have to act jointly on simultaneous submissions.

"We know it has been happening," he said, "and, of course, it means that some-

body can buy life insurance without necessarily having to lie. If they don't actually make a false statement on the proposal form, it will be difficult to have that policy declared null and void. Fortunately, the number of people who make fraudulent applications is still very small."

The Association of British Insurers is sceptical about co-operation within the industry. "There are millions of policies written every year," says John Wagstaff, "and it would be extremely difficult to check all of them."

But what of the person who contracts Aids two, three or even 20 years after taking out a life insurance policy in good faith? Mr Wagstaff says there is no question of such a policy not being paid.

However, many companies are now looking very closely at all deaths reported since Aids made headline news. Hugh Raymond, of Scottish Widows, says policies that mature within five years of being taken out receive special attention.

"The trouble is that death certificates do not show that a person has died specifically of Aids," he says.

Victims of Aids lose their policies

The problem of identifying high-risk groups is not confined to the life insurance industry. In April the Bristol-based Western Provident Association, which provides private hospital cover, announced that it would no longer pay benefit to people suffering from sexually transmitted diseases.

David Ashdown, the marketing manager, said this, in effect, meant Aids. "While no special questions are asked, we insure on an annual contract," he said. "If a patient is found to have Aids, their contract is not renewed."

That must be bad news not only for homosexuals but also for the National Health Service.

Keith Sharp

The man who could not sell his shares

"You can sell your shares whenever you wish," trumpeted the blurb in the TSB promotional literature issued before the bank's offer for sale last September. It is not true, as Brian Ash, a reader of *The Times*, discovered this week.

Mr Ash took a TSB letter of allocation into the Staines branch of the National Westminster. The letter showed that Mr Ash was the rightful owner of 500 TSB shares. He was expecting the sale to provide him with £470 of spending money for his summer holiday.

No such luck. The securities clerk at the bank pointed out that the letter of allocation expired at 3pm last Wednesday, July 15. Result: no sale.

Mr Ash, however, telephoned TSB's share registrars, Lloyds Bank at Goring-on-Sea, Sussex, and was dismayed to be told that they would not be sending out replacement documents of title to TSB's 2.1 million individual shareholders until July 30.

In the meantime, Lloyds Bank could not offer Mr Ash any advice on how he could sell his TSB shares.

TSB itself confirms there has to be a gap between expiry of the original letter of allocation and issue of replacement documents of title, so that the registrars can compile an up-to-date list of shareholders, but that this should not freeze sales of shares.

Other readers who experience the same problem as Mr Ash should contact the TSB Share Information office on 01-606 7070.

Peter Gartland

A tall story?

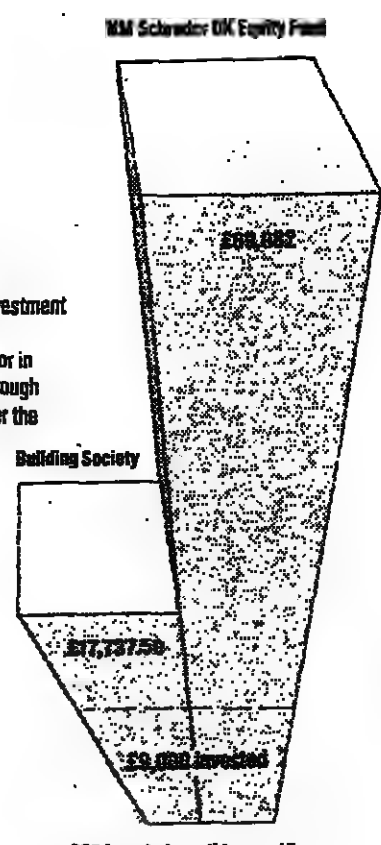
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Get the best out of Europe

One of the pleasures of a visit abroad is bringing back wines, spirits and other goods without paying the excise duties, writes Conal Gregory, Master of Wine. However, few people realize that the Customs allowances permit a wider scope, particularly for wine, than the traditional notices displayed at docks and airports indicate.

The basis for allowances is split into two groups depending on where the items have been purchased: either in another EEC state where any local taxes have been paid or through a duty-free shop, ship or aircraft. The second group also includes goods bought in non-EEC states.

The regulations and the prices favour the first group. Tax-paid prices in Paris, Milan or Amsterdam will normally be better than duty-free prices on ships and aircraft. Continental European tax-paid prices are also better than UK prices.

Four litres of wine can be brought into the UK if bought in a duty-free store, but wine investors will find it best to buy on a tax-paid basis from merchants or vineyard owners. They can then bring back eight litres (more than 11 bottles) of still wine or 72 corkscrews for every member of the family aged over 17,

although this means giving up 1.5 litres of spirits.

Alternatively, as the chart shows, five litres of wine (more than seven bottles) can be imported duty-free with the spirit allowance.

It will often pay to bring larger quantities and declare the surplus through the red channel. The duty rates on light wine not exceeding 15 per cent by volume are £8.23 per dozen bottles of 70cl, £8.59 for 73cl and £8.82 for 75cl.

Customs and Excise allow three litres of sparkling wine purchased in a tax-paid shop

DUTY-FREE ALLOWANCES			
Goods	Tax paid from EEC states	Non-EEC or from duty-free shop	Non-EEC or from duty-free shop
Still wine (litres)	5	2	
Still wine (bottles) (40cl or 50cl)	3	2	
Sparkling wine (litres)	15	1	
Port (bottles)	75	50	
Tablet wine (bottles)	0.375	0.25	
Cognac (bottles)	300	200	
Cognac (litres)	150	100	
Cognac (bottles)	75	50	
Cognac (litres)	400	250	

or two litres from a duty-free shop. If you bring in extra, the duty is £14.56 per case of 12 bottles, which can make many Spanish Cava or Loire Méthode Champenoise sparklers very good value.

Fortified wines means higher strength lines such as port, Madeira and, usually, sherry. Good Solera Madeira and occasionally single vintage can be secured abroad. On port, select leading names, such as Cruik, Cockburn, Dow, Fonseca, Taylor and Warr, for investment potential.

The additional duty on fortified wines beyond the allowance is £16.18 per dozen bottles for those not exceeding 18 per cent, such as Montilla, and £18.51 for those between 18 and 22 per cent, in both cases of 75cl size.

Take several of the better UK merchants' lists to compare prices and to be sure of buying vintages with potential. Many small Burgundy and champagne makers put up signs to indicate they will sell. This can involve complimentary tastings, but a better investment is usually made through a large merchant or supermarket. A notable exception is the Rhône in France and most of the West German estates. Both offer the chance to see wines that may not be on the larger lists, owing to small production runs.

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M&G PLANNED INCOME PORTFOLIO

For many people the most important aspect of investment is income. If you need an income which will grow, unit trusts can be ideal. And the table on the right illustrates M&G's successful record of providing an increasing income.

The M&G Planned Income Portfolio is based on five unit trusts, and provides ten income distributions spread over the year. At 15th July 1987 the estimated gross yield on the Portfolio was 3.74%, over 28% higher than that of the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index. Income is paid net of basic-rate income tax. At a yield of 3.74% a basic-rate taxpayer would expect to receive £273 in the first year after tax, on an initial investment of £10,000.

The income from the four older trusts in the Portfolio has risen nearly three-and-a-half times since the Extra Yield Fund was launched in 1973. Past performance is no guarantee for the future, but the income from this Portfolio is expected to continue growing in future years. With a Bank or Building Society deposit, however, the income can vary only in line with the general level of interest rates.

In addition to generating income totalling £13,002, an investment of £10,000 in these unit trusts on 1st January 1977 would have grown to £75,602 by 15th July 1987. In contrast a comparable Building Society deposit would still be worth only £10,000 and income from it would have totalled just £9,215 over the same period.

However, you should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The five funds described here are all designed to produce above average and increasing income.

DIVIDEND FUND aims for a yield about 50% higher than that of the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index, from a wide range of ordinary shares.

HIGH INCOME FUND and **EXTRA YIELD FUND** both aim for a yield about 60% higher than that of the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index, from portfolios of ordinary shares.

CONVERSION INCOME FUND aims to provide a similar return, but its portfolio of ordinary shares has a strong bias towards smaller companies.

COMPARISON TABLE

Annual income from an investment of £10,000

Year	Building Society	Four M&G unit trusts
1977	£ 850	£ 843
1978	£ 779	£ 984
1979	£ 996	£1,110
1980	£1,200	£1,265
1981	£1,056	£1,284
1982	£1,003	£1,292
1983	£ 825	£1,338
1984	£ 849	£1,423
1985	£ 907	£1,617
1986	£ 750	£1,846

NOTES:
1 Net of tax to a basic-rate taxpayer.
2 Based on the Building Societies Association's recommended rate of return + 1% on fully paid shares.
3 £2,500 invested in each of M&G Dividend, High Income, Extra Yield, and Conversion Income Funds on 1st January 1977. (The M&G International Income Fund is not included as it was not available until 1985.)

READ THIS TABLE BEFORE INVESTING	DIVIDEND	HIGH INCOME	CONVERSION INCOME	EXTRA YIELD	INTERNATIONAL INCOME
Launch date	May '84	April '69	Feb. '73	Nov. '73	May '86
Initial price	50p	50p	50p	50p	50p
Price of income units at 15th July 1987	657.5p x d	517.6p x d	307.7p	373.9p	75.8p
Estimated current gross yield	3.55%	3.55%	3.66%	3.66%	4.05%
Yield in F.T. All Share Index since launch	+1215.0%	+935.2%	+515.4%	+647.3%	+51.6%
Yield in F.T. All Share Index over same period	+1035.2%	+643.7%	+525.2%	+603.6%	+91.9%
Distribution dates	15 January 15 July	31 January 31 July	31 March 30 September	1 May 1 November	1 June 1 December
Trustee	Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited	Clydesdale Bank Plc	Courts & Co.	Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited	Lloyds Bank Plc

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the "offered" price (at which you buy units) and the "bid" price (at which you sell) is normally 5%. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price and an annual charge of up to 1% of each Fund's value - currently 1% (except International Income, which is 1%) - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income is distributed on the appropriate dates net of basic rate tax. You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for sale or purchase will be due for settlement 2 to 3 weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents: rates are available on request. All the Funds are wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

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PLEASE INVEST a total of £ (minimum £2,500) in income units of the following Funds, divided as indicated, at the price ruling on receipt of this application. (If no split is indicated, your investment will be spread equally between the five Funds.) Minimum £500 in any one Fund.

DIVIDEND	HIGH INCOME	CONVERSION INCOME	EXTRA YIELD	INTERNAT. INCOME
£	£	£	£	£

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Stick with winners

Unit trust investors should think hard before venturing too far from home, particularly when the local market looks so healthy. RICHARD NEWELL advises on investment in UK growth funds.



Richard Newell, "solid core" going to be the household names of tomorrow. The manager will also invest in larger companies whose shares may have fallen out of favour, but where he thinks the company is due for a re-rating by the market.

Apert from companies whose main retail business is unit trusts, such as M&G, Save & Prosper, Henderson, Fidelity and Framlington, the large banks and insurance companies also market growth funds.

Abbey Life, Allied Dunbar, Eagle Star, the Prudential and Legal & General are all in this business, along with are Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Westminster and the Trustee Savings Bank.

The average UK growth unit trust has appreciated by a very healthy 50 per cent over the past 12 months and by 120 per cent over the past two years. Although most investors would be very happy with that sort of return, the figures do conceal how varied unit trust performance can be and how important it is to invest with a company that can show consistently good performance.

For example, the best-performing UK growth fund over the year to July 1 was Govett Special Opportunities, which increased in value by 109 per cent. Contrast that with the 21.7 per cent rise produced by the Barclays Unicorn Growth Accumulator fund.

Although the Barclays Unicorn return is still far better than you could have got from your building society, when you compare it with the rise in the UK stock market since last year it is pretty appalling.

It's quite a fun fund to start with.

As the name of the top-performing Govett fund suggests, this sector contains some specialist funds that probably carry a higher degree of risk, but also a greater potential reward.

Ian Kennedy, the manager of Govett's Special Opportunities fund, says: "It's quite a fun one to start with but I wouldn't advise people to put all their money into it. They should look on it as part of their overall portfolio strategy."

This fund, and others such as Manulife's Smaller Companies and Brown Shipley's Recovery, rely on the fund manager's ability to spot the small company stocks that are

Confederation Life has a UK growth fund that has grown in size from £5 million in 1982 to £185 million in 1987. The company has now launched a UK smaller companies fund (the offer period ends on July 26). The fund manager, Nigel Beidas, says: "A lot of the growth in the existing fund was built from smaller companies. Setting up a specialist fund after the market has risen so far obviously calls for a high degree of selection, but we're confident that there are still good opportunities."

Confederation has also tended towards unfashionable stocks and is not afraid to hold on to them for four or five years before seeing a profit.

Investors in UK smaller companies funds have generally done very well. This is probably because these funds require a lot more attention, and if the manager is prepared to provide that attention, the fund will perform that much better.

Mr Kennedy says: "We do include some large firms in the Special Opportunities fund, but it is mostly the small and medium-sized companies where you have the greatest growth potential."

Names that bring in the customers

A few groups have tried to attract new money by selling the idea of a unit trust that invests only in household names. Fidelity's Famous Names trust, Henderson's Best of British and County's Great British Companies are prime examples of this marketing ploy.

Hilary Smith, of Fidelity's Famous Names, says: "This is much more suitable for first-time investors than a special situations fund. It invests primarily in companies with a high profile and this gives the investor something to identify with and something that's reasonably easy to follow."

The famous names include Midland and Barclays banks, British Gas, Cadbury Schweppes, Allied Lyons, Pilkington and Glaxo.

Henderson's Best of British invests only in companies that form part of the FTSE 100 Index, the Stock Exchange's index of the top 100 UK companies by capitalization.

Although this "blue chip" approach does provide an element of safety, with fewer than 40 stocks in the fund it also lends itself to above



Hilary Smith: "easy to follow" average volatility. If one commitment stock takes a dive, the fund's performance would be more than slightly affected.

Richard Smith, of Henderson, is unperturbed: "We would expect it to follow the market," he says. As the fund has been running for only a couple of months, it is too early to tell whether this is so.

The Fidelity and County funds certainly seem to have followed the market. The FT All Share Index has risen by around 36 per cent over the past six months. The Famous Names and Great British Companies funds have risen 37.3 per cent and 35.5 per cent respectively over the same period.

UK GROWTH FUNDS/1

One such investment that has served him well is Randworth Trust, a company that was trading at 50p before Christmas 1986, and in just over six months has become a sizeable property company with a sixfold increase in its share price. Mr Kennedy bought a substantial stake in Randworth and the fund has reaped the benefits.

This is an exceptional case, though, and investors are unlikely to see such results from their investment in a mere half year.

Manager benefits from close contact

The most successful fund managers are those who have good contacts and who are prepared to be patient. Henderson has a number of UK growth funds, but its most successful has been the Recovery fund. According to Henderson's Richard Smith, it has "a solid core of long-term quality growth stocks and small companies with the ability to grow faster than average."

Having pinpointed the recovery situations, a fund manager must be prepared to stick with them for three to five years, if necessary. Mr Smith cites Johnson Matthey as a good example of this strategy. Investing when the bullion company was out of favour in the market and holding on to it past the initial recovery.

The Henderson Capital Growth trust, says Mr Smith, has performed badly because "we stuck to major companies which were good performers in the 1970s, while the market emphasis has switched to recovery and income stocks because of a dramatic improvement in profits and dividends".

Investors wanting to speculate a little in smaller companies and recovery situations would be better off in a unit trust than trying to invest directly in the shares themselves.

Although, within the confines of a unit trust, this sort of thing doesn't look particularly high-risk, it has to be remembered that the fund manager is benefiting from much closer contact with the market, so the risk is a calculated one.

"I honestly believe that investors are better off not trying to do this sort of thing themselves," says Mr Kennedy. "It is very difficult for a private investor to hold out after a loss. He will usually end up selling at the bottom."

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You can start an M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan with as little as £25. You need not subscribe regularly but we strongly recommend that you do, by completing the Bankers Order form. By saving a regular amount you make fluctuations in the stockmarket work to your advantage because more units are bought when their price is low than when it is high.

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The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

WHAT YOU COULD HAVE ACCUMULATED FOR £25 A MONTH BY 1st APRIL 1987

	5 YEARS from 1st Apr 1982	10 YEARS from 1st Apr 1982	15 YEARS from 1st Apr 1982
Amount paid in	1,500	3,000	4,500
M&G Recovery	3,846	12,915	44,077
M&G Dividend	3,544	12,247	31,506
M&G SECOND	3,125	11,386	28,146
F.T. Industrial Ordinary Index	3,071	9,566	20,826
Building Society Savings Account	1,823	4,673	8,884

Source: Planned Savings. All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic-rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are bid prices; you should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

The Rules of the Plan are available on request. All the Funds are wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

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You can vary the amount you pay and you are free to cash in your accumulated investment, or part of it, at any time without penalty. The securities in a unit trust are held in safe custody by the Trustee (one of the major banks). You can follow the progress of your plan by looking up the price of units and the current yield in the Financial Times or other leading newspapers. You buy units at the "offer" price and sell at the "bid" price.

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NATIONAL SAVINGS

FAMILY MONEY/7

The gentle art of investing at the right time

Having chosen the UK growth trust you think is going to perform best, the next thing you have to consider is whether this is actually the right time to be investing. Most fund managers would say now is always the best time to invest, and if you are taking the long-term view, there is probably a grain of truth in that.

Nigel Beidas, at Confederation Life, says: "I think the best way to invest in a unit trust is just to put the money into the fund of your choice and forget about it for five years. Some years it will rise by 40 per cent and in others it will only rise by 10 per cent, but at the end of the five years you should have yourself a very reasonable return."

Unfortunately, investors are notoriously short-sighted. If the fund does nothing in the first six months they think they've been had. But the real

UK GROWTH FUNDS/2

test of a unit trust group's if prices fell back a little during the next few weeks.

"In any bull market you get froth and I think the market is currently frothy," he says. "A lot of situations have done very well and some have been overbought."

Mr Beidas says: "I suspect the market has to consolidate a bit. We don't have any qualms about the long-term picture, though."

Fidelity's Hilary Smith agrees that the summer months will see prices looking a little flat, but on balance she expects the market to rise by 5 to 10 per cent from the current levels by the end of the year.

For 1988 she is less confident. "We would probably



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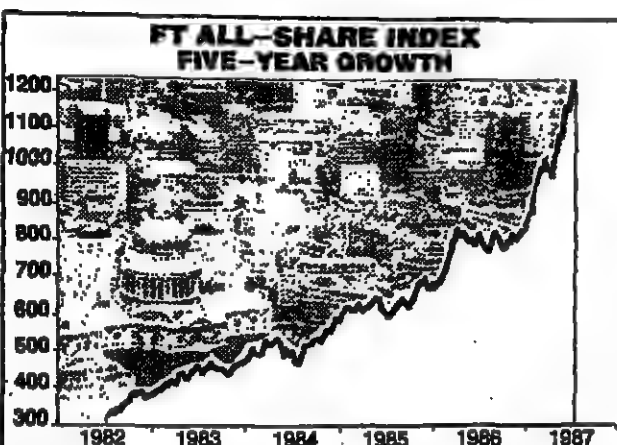
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Form for applying to Abbey Master Trust. Fields include Name, Address, Postcode, Date and Signature. A box for 'I am/We are over 18' is also present.



abilities is how it performs over the medium and long term, that is, two to five years. For example, Prolific's Special Situations trust has risen just above the average over the past six months, which puts it in 41st place in the league tables. But over five years it is number one, having risen by 590 per cent.

So anyone who had invested £1,000 with Prolific five years ago, would now have an investment worth £6,900. The average five-year performance for all UK growth funds is significantly less, at just 327 per cent, but that is still a very respectable return by any measure.

You will be very lucky to pick the number one fund but as long as you are up in the top quarter of the league tables over one year or more you will have made the right choice.

Of course, if your fund is performing below the average after a year, you should ask the unit trust group why that is so. If it cannot give a satisfactory answer you should take your money elsewhere.

The UK stock market has performed remarkably well in the first six months of 1987. So if you invest now, are you making the classic investment mistake of buying at the top? The short answer to that is probably No.

Although the post-election

have a few reservations," she says. "There are one or two danger signs further down the road. We must watch very closely for any overheating in the economy. The market itself is almost fully valued so it's really on the basis of strong cash flow that we are positive about the UK."

"Any really strong move in the market must be on the



Clive Fenn-Smith: rewards basis of renewed fundamental value.

Despite being extremely confident of the UK stock market, Peter Edwards, of Premier Unit Trust Brokers in Bristol, is exercising a degree of restraint. "We think it prudent not to go overboard just yet," he says. "Tempting though it is to thin out a bit overseas and boost UK coverage, prices may yet get a little cheaper. And overseas prices themselves could go up a bit, if the pound comes back further and the dollar strengthens."

"There are so many ifs, of course — there always are — but unless someone says, 'The Japanese are buying', we'll sit on the sidelines for now."

In uncertain times such as these, investors must show patience with their unit trusts. There will be times when the fund will not perform well, but as long as there is an overall upward trend in the unit price, you should not consider redeeming the investment. Unit trusts will rise consistently only when the markets are rising consistently, which they rarely do for more than a few months.

The Unit Trust Association's former chairman, Clive Fenn-Smith, said recently: "Most equity markets have performed exceptionally strongly over the last few years."

"It is important that investors should remember this and recognize that they have to accept some element of risk, particularly in the short term, in order to achieve rewards from equity investment."

● All figures courtesy of Opal Statistics



Peter Edwards: "on sidelines" euphoria seems to have been short-lived.

The UK stock market has performed remarkably well in the first six months of 1987. So if you invest now, are you making the classic investment mistake of buying at the top? The short answer to that is probably No.

Although the post-election



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793134

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL

Bring on the Perrier

As competition intensifies to recruit the finest graduate talent in the land, some law firms are employing the most ingenious methods to get their message across.

In particular Herbert Smith, Macfarlanes and Dickinson Dees are to be congratulated for making use of an interesting subliminal technique during their appearance in the careers information video *Which Firm of Solicitors?* released to university careers advisers earlier this year.

Stealing a march on Gordon Dadds, Clarke Willmott & Clarke and Powell McGrath & Spencer who also appear in the video, Herbert Smith and Macfarlanes resorted to the liberal display of Perrier bottles in an effort to show just how smart and trendy they are.

Whether poking out clearly from behind a solicitor's back at Dickinson Dees, or being hinted at by a centre-screen golden bottle-top at Herbert Smith, the Perrier bottle soon became the motif of what dynamic, young and successful solicitors are all about.

The climax comes at Macfarlanes when a troupe of green bottles is allowed to dance naked and unashamed three abreast down the middle of the table during a partners' meeting. The message was clear. Slick lawyers think *Perrier*. If you want to join the in-crowd do your articles in the firms where the Perrier flows.

Of course not everyone can make it into video. But do not despair. The glossy recruitment brochure is another place to show your P factor to the impressionable young undergraduate.

In the case of Barlow Lyde & Gilbert, for example, the Perrier bottle fits in totemic splendour in the middle of page 5 surrounded by a group of grinning partners.

And next year, for certain, no piece of graduate recruitment literature will be complete without a display of ten green bottles hanging on the wall with articulated clerks slung alongside them in joyful attendance.

It is a sign of the times, perhaps, that distinguished firms are resorting to such extreme devices in their effort to win the attention of prospective articulated clerks. Forbidden to recruit actively before September 1, the next six weeks should see a lot of quiet discussion and then a scramble for the best of the graduate crop in the autumn.

In getting ready for this all the major firms report that they need to work both harder and longer to demonstrate what they have to offer.

Milk-round visits, vacation courses, university presentations, buffet-lunches, glossy brochures, videos (as well as endorsement by fizzy water) have all become well-established techniques for bringing your name before prospective applicants. But with such pressures on staff the reality is that firms are having to be more and more inventive to stay in

Competition is intense among law firms to attract the most talented to become articulated clerks. Edward Fennell describes the way firms pull out all the stops



the running as the demand for able graduates constantly spirals upwards.

Take Simmons & Simmons. "In 1980 we were recruiting about 15 articulated clerks each year," said partner John Calvert, "but now the figure has gone up to 40. In order to achieve that number of young men and women at the right quality we have to work very hard. We can't afford to limit ourselves in the kind of people we would consider."

Long gone, therefore, are the days when only applicants from Oxbridge and London would do. As Charles Plant, the recruitment partner at Herbert Smith, pointed out, he goes to 15 institutions to fill his 40 places. He is looking for people who are good academically, commercially aware, and with the character to become congenial colleagues.

Much the same profile was given by John Calvert at S&S which now visits Hull, Leeds, Newcastle and (this year for the first time) Keele as well as the established "first division" universities in order to make contacts with students and generate interest among academics.

In "selling" his firm John Calvert emphasises factors like friendliness and good promotion prospects. But recognizes that most firms will be projecting themselves in the same way and that any innovation will be promptly imitated elsewhere.

"What we try to do, therefore, is get across the atmosphere of the firm. Once they have come down here for interview and met our existing articulated clerks their interest is usually hooked."

Inducements to join the firms are now extensive. With an average starting

salary in London of around £10,000, it is a world away from that period after the war when it was an unpaid privilege to be given articles by a firm of solicitors.

Money, though, is not everything. Although Clifford Chance recently bewailed the fact that some applicants had been offered more money by merchant banks, the consensus seems to be that those who are genuinely committed to the law will come in irrespective of what they are paid while in training.

What really turns on graduate interest, of course, is the possibility of a partnership. Without promising anything in detail there is a wealth of nudge, nudge, wink, wink to imply that if you are energetic, hard working, extremely intelligent and have a face that fits you will have your name on the paper within the twinkling of an eye.

The coda to this come-on at the recruitment stage is that naturally you are indeed a paragon of all the virtues, so success, if you join Perrier, Peddle and Person will assuredly be yours.

Projecting the right image, though, is a subtle matter. When Barlow Lyde & Gilbert ran out of space they saw it as an opportunity to retrain and moved into sumptuous accommodation in No 1 Finsbury Avenue. Frankly, no visiting student could fail to be impressed by the excitement of this marvellous new building and, as a partner of Richard Dedman explained, the fact that BLG now have a much broader base of work than of old is a powerful pull.

"We'll only be taking on about ten articulated clerks this year but we hope that each one we recruit will remain with us after qualifying," said Mr Dedman.

For those ten places Mr Dedman will probably receive about 250 applications and they will be gradually whittled down to a final interview list of 30. From there it is a matter of trying to second-guess how many offers you need to make to ensure that all the slots will be filled.

"The problem is that all the leading firms are chasing after the same people," said Mr Dedman, "so best applicants get lots of offers."

Getting "a fair share" of the elite is the aim of most recruitment partners. "You can tell the outstanding ones as soon as they come through the door," said John Calvert of S&S. "They have presence and personality as well as high intelligence and motivation. They are people who are financially aware, want to get things done and be able to attract new clients as well as keep existing ones. They represent the future of the firm."

No matter how hard they work, however, what concerns many small to medium-sized firms are the rumours of the vast numbers of articulated clerks due to be scooped up from this September by large operations like Linklaters. With so much work being dealt with in London the growth could almost be mortal.

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Publishing confidential information subject of court order can be contempt

Attorney General v Newspaper Publishing plc and Others

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Balcombe
[Reasons July 17]

Strangers to an action, who knew that the court had made orders or accepted undertakings designed to protect the confidentiality of information pending trial, committed a serious offence against justice itself if they took action which would damage or destroy the confidentiality which the court was seeking to protect and so rendered the due process of law ineffectual.

It was for the courts, and not for third parties, to decide whether, balancing competing public and private interests including those of the third parties, confidentiality should continue to be preserved at any particular time.

The Court of Appeal so held in announcing their reasons for the decision of July 15 (The Times July 16) allowing an appeal by the Attorney General against the decision of Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor (The Times June 3) that The Guardian, The London Evening Standard and The London Daily News could not be held to be in contempt of court in publishing information derived from or attributed to Mr Peter Wright, a former member of the British security services, and which was the subject of injunctions against The Guardian and The Observer (The Times July 26, 1986).

Mr John Laws and Mr Philip Havers for the Attorney General; Miss Adrienne Page for The Independent and its editor, Mr John Mathew, QC and Mr Jonathan Caplan for The London Evening Standard and its editor, Mr Charles Gray, QC and David Penick for The London Daily News and its editor.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the real issue was whether in the circumstances of the case the defendant newspapers and their editors could be guilty of contempt of court.

Mr Peter Wright, who lived in Tasmania, was for many years a servant of the Crown and a member of the British security services. He retired on January 31, 1976. Shortly or wrongly he concluded that the activities of the service while he was a member had been unlawful and that that should be investigated and exposed.

He therefore submitted a memorandum to the chairman of a select committee of the House of Commons. The result was in his view, unsatisfactory and he decided to write and publish his memoirs in Australia.

That came to the notice of the authorities in this country and in September 1983 the Attorney General began proceedings in a Supreme Court of New South Wales against Mr Wright and the proposed publishers, seeking to restrain publication.

So much had been said about state secrets that it had to be stressed that the basis of the Attorney General's claim to be entitled to restrain publication was not that Mr Wright might be in breach of the Official Secrets Act. It was that by the terms of his employment with the security service, he had a duty of confidentiality which would be breached if he published his memoirs.

Confidentiality, not official secrecy, had been and still was the central issue.

Some time during the next nine months, The Guardian and The Observer newspapers obtained some knowledge of the contents of Mr Wright's memoirs. Rightly or wrongly they came to the conclusion that even if that was confidential information which belonged to the security service, their allegations being made by Mr Wright were so serious and so plausible that the public interest required that every citizen should know about them.

The newspapers might or might not have been right, but the English courts became involved when the Attorney General began an action to prevent the publishing of information derived from or attributed to Mr Wright in his memoirs.

What were the courts to do? They did not know whether the Attorney General was right or whether the newspapers were right. What they did know was that there was a very serious issue to be tried and that if they forbade publication pending the trial, there would still be confidential information which could be published after the trial and that if they did not restrain publication there would be no longer be any confidential information and it would be pointless even to have a trial. So the courts forbade publication pending the trial.

Under Mr Wright and the Australian publishers, The Guardian and The Observer did not accept the logic of that approach and resisted the Attorney General's applications both in the High Court and in the Court of Appeal.

On April 27, 1987 The Independent published extensive extracts and summaries from Mr Wright's book and was immediately followed by The London Evening Standard and The London Daily News, who appeared to have been basing themselves upon The Independent.

The Independent claimed to have received an unsolicited copy of Mr Wright's manuscript and, after using it, to have destroyed it.

The Attorney General thereupon launched the present proceedings against the defendants, alleging that the publications referred to were "intended or calculated to impede, obstruct or prejudice the administration of justice in that they were severally intended or calculated and in any event likely to thwart orders of the Court of Appeal made on July 25, 1986 in High Court proceedings brought by the Attorney General against The Observer and others" and claiming that accordingly the defendants were in contempt of court and should be punished.

The matter came before the Vice-Chancellor on a preliminary point of law: "Whether a publication made in the knowledge of an ongoing injunction against another party and which if made by that other party would be in breach thereof, constitutes a criminal contempt of court upon the footing that it assaults or interferes with the process of justice in relation to the said injunction."

In a judgment of quite outstanding clarity the Vice-Chancellor concluded that the question was to be answered in the negative.

While his Lordship agreed with him that there ought to be some sanction against the publication of matters which prejudiced national security, he would like to re-emphasize with all the power at his command that the present case was not primarily about national security or official secrets.

It was about the right of private citizens to seek and obtain the protection of the courts for confidential information which they claimed to be their property.

The national security element in the present dispute was peripheral and was no more than one factor which the court had to take into account when deciding whether or not to preserve the confidentiality of the Wright information pending the trial of The Guardian/The Observer action.

Legislation could well take care of national security as the Vice-Chancellor suggested, but it was not the business of the courts to decide whether or not to preserve the confidentiality of the Wright information pending the trial of The Guardian/The Observer action.

The situation with which their Lordships were faced was novel in the sense that there was no reported decision which provided any direct guidance. It was therefore appropriate to start with the first principles of the law of contempt of court.

Despite its Protean nature, contempt had been classified under two heads, "civil" and "criminal". "Civil contempt" was that which was intended to obstruct or prejudice the administration of justice, and there were now common rights of appeal.

Of greater assistance was a reclassification as (a) conduct which involved a breach, or assisting in the breach, of a court order which involved an interference with the due administration of justice, either in a particular case or more generally as a continuing process, the first category being a special form of the latter, such interference being a characteristic common to all contempt cases (see Attorney General v Leveller Magazine Ltd (1979) AC 440, 449) per Lord Diplock.

What primarily distinguished the two categories was that in general conduct which involved a breach, or assisting in the breach, of a court order was treated as a matter for the parties to raise by complaint to the court, whereas conduct which was intended to obstruct or prejudice the administration of justice was in general considered to be a matter for the Attorney General to raise.

In doing so he acted not as a government minister or legal adviser, but as the guardian of the public interest in the due administration of justice. Although it happened to be the case that the conduct complained of here was said to impinge upon the trial of an action in which the Attorney General, acting as a minister and the plaintiff, was brought, the present proceedings, in a quite different capacity independently of the government of the day, namely in that which his Lordship had described as "guardian of the public interest in the due administration of justice".

Consistently with acting in this capacity as "guardian of the public interest in the due administration of justice", the Attorney General's complaint was not that the defendants breached or assisted in the breach of the orders which he obtained in The Guardian and The Observer cases, but that the conduct complained of "was intended or calculated to impede, obstruct or prejudice the administration of justice".

That raised two issues. What was the conduct complained of? Could it be said to have been intended or calculated to impede, obstruct or prejudice the administration of justice?

The latter was clearly a question which could be asked and answered in the abstract, but depended upon the course

which the administration of justice had taken and was intended by the court to take. It was for that reason, that it was necessary to take account of the course which The Guardian and The Observer actions had pursued, including the orders made restraining The Guardian and The Observer, but no other newspapers, from publishing the "Wright material".

The Guardian and The Observer actions began on June 27, 1986 with the grant by Mr Justice Macpherson of *ex parte* injunctions addressed to the two newspapers restraining publication of Wright material. The newspapers applied to have them set aside and that application was heard and determined by Mr Justice Millett on July 25, 1986.

Against that background of the trial, his Lordship asked himself whether at the end of July 1986 (when the interim injunctive order was made against The Guardian and The Observer) a publication by the newspapers of Wright material, which was not the subject of the *ex parte* injunctions, would be calculated to impede, obstruct or prejudice the administration of justice or in the words of Lord Diplock in Attorney General v Leveller Magazine Ltd "to involve an interference with the due administration of justice".

To that question there could only be one answer, namely that it would. The issue in The Guardian and The Observer actions was not whether the information had been confidential to the Crown, but whether for one reason or another that confidentiality had evaporated and the information was being published in a counter-veiling public interest.

Mr Justice Millett and the Court of Appeal, had not only prohibited publication, including re-publication, by The Guardian and The Observer, but had held that indirect publication by other newspapers of the direct publication of which was prohibited by the Australian courts, would permanently deprive the Attorney General of his rights in advance of the trial.

The court was making an order for the preservation of the confidentiality of the Wright material pending trial. Wright material, whether by those defendants or others, would deprive the Attorney General of his rights in advance of the trial, and by his Lordship's order, the confidentiality of the Wright material pending trial, would be maintained.

The next question was whether that situation had changed in April 1987 when the *ex parte* injunctions were published. Wright material.

It was true that the Australian trial had concluded by then, and the judge had ruled that Mr Wright was entitled to publish, but that decision was under appeal and The Guardian and The Observer were still awaiting a full trial. The answer was plain.

The publication of Mr Wright's memoirs in full at that time would have prevented any effective adjudication upon the Attorney General's claim in The Guardian and The Observer cases, and the publications complained of, while not going to that length, were very far from being of minimal effect.

To the extent that they placed Wright material into the public domain, where it had not previously been, they deprived the Attorney General of the rights which he was asserting in those actions and that extent

made it impossible for the court to do justice between the parties.

The Vice-Chancellor said that it seemed to him that the Attorney General was seeking to widen the application of the law of criminal contempt, albeit in accordance with established principle. That his Lordship was unable to accept.

The law of contempt was based upon the broadest of principles, namely, that the courts could not and would not permit interference with the due administration of justice. His application was universal.

The fact that it was applied in novel circumstances, for example to the punishment of a person who had been given a warning (Attorney General v Butterworth (1963) 1 QB 696) was not a case of widening its application.

In the final stage of his reasoning the Vice-Chancellor said that the question which he had to decide was whether, due to the chance that there was in existence an order of the court preventing The Guardian and The Observer from publishing Wright material, the appropriate action was contempt of court.

There, the Vice-Chancellor misdirected himself in thus formulating the question. Contempt of court was not a sanction. Contempt of court was a conduct, the sanction for which was imprisonment, attachment, a fine or an order to pay costs.

In his interesting and crucial decision in *In re X (a Minor) (Wardship: Injunction)* [1984] 1 All ER 1422, Mr Justice Balcombe made an order prohibiting publication of information about the ward by The News of the World, which was a party, and any other person who should have notice of the order, lay beyond the fact and his Lordship was wholly satisfied that it was also effective in law.

As the Vice-Chancellor pointed out, English civil courts acted *in personam*. They adjudicated disputes between the parties to an action and made orders against those parties only.

His Lordship sympathized with the position in which Mr Justice Balcombe found himself in that case. The proper discharge of the duties of the court in the exercise of the ancient duties of *parens patriae* made it essential that there should be no publication and he had to find a way of achieving that result.

But had any newspaper, other than The News of the World, published details of the ward and had the Attorney General sought to commit it or its editor for contempt consisting of disobedience of the order, the motion would have been dismissed.

The fact that the order was addressed to the alleged contemnor would rightly have been disregarded as done without jurisdiction. But if the Attorney General had moved, instead, upon the ground that the publication interfered with the administration of justice he would have succeeded and the fact that publication had taken place notwithstanding the warning conveyed by the form of the order would have been an aggravating circumstance.

How now of the "chance" or "fact" that the court had made an order against The News of the World? The court was entitled to administer justice in whatever way it considered appropriate, although that was of course governed by precedent and principle.

In the particular case Mr Justice Balcombe decided to administer justice by concealing details concerning the ward and

announced that fact because it was unusual. He would have had no need to announce that the court would not permit its ward to be married without its consent. Because that was well known. Having once determined how justice was to be administered, any interference with that course of action would be unlawful and punishable as a contempt.

The order was thus very material. Without it any newspaper could have said, rightly, that Mr Justice Balcombe was not administering justice in a way which involved no restraint of information about the ward, otherwise than in the context of particular applications in the wardship.

The instant case was almost exactly analogous. In fact the *ex parte* injunction was granted as soon as, or even before, the writ was issued and the proceedings began.

But suppose that there had been an interval of a week between the writ and the injunction, with publication of the Wright material meanwhile. That would not have been a contempt, because the court would not have indicated that it proposed to administer justice between the Attorney General and the newspapers by preserving the confidentiality of the Wright material pending the trial and no one would have had any reason to know that it did so intend.

Knowledge of how the court was administering, or intended to administer, justice was of the essence of the unlawfulness of conduct which interfered with that administration, whether or not that conduct consisted of disobedience to an order.

Once the court had announced its intention of preserving the confidentiality of the Wright material, the position was quite different.

The order itself, reinforced by the statement of Mr Justice Millett that the release of the information would permit indirect publication of the Wright material and effectively and permanently deprive the Attorney General of his rights in advance of the trial, was that it was not to be re-published, had made it abundantly clear that the court was intending to preserve the confidentiality of the Wright material pending the trial.

That was its chosen method of administering justice and the present defendants could have been in no doubt that that was the case.

The preliminary question of law did not address itself to the question of what was the justification for the newspapers' actions or what were their intentions in publishing.

The assumption being made was that, on the view of the law which was put forward by the newspapers and accepted by the Vice-Chancellor, those considerations were irrelevant. With that assumption, his Lordship could not accept that.

If contrary to the facts, the sole intention of the newspapers in publishing was to render nugatory the trial of the action brought by the government against The Guardian and The Observer, in his Lordship's judgment there could not be a clearer case of contempt of court, but on the answer given by the Vice-Chancellor, the newspapers could say that no offence had been committed. That could not be right.

Curiously, that point was never put to the Vice-Chancellor and was never raised in argument before their Lordships. It only occurred to them after they had adjourned to

consider their judgments and it seemed so fundamental that they thought it right to invite further argument on whether intent to impede or prejudice the administration of justice (to quote section 6(c) of the Contempt of Court Act 1981) was or was not a relevant consideration and if it was, what was the nature of the intention which had to be proved if a contempt of court was to be established.

Mr Clarke, for The Independent, submitted that if the conduct of the newspapers did not constitute *actus reus*, or criminal act, it mattered not whether they had the necessary *mens rea*, or criminal intent. That was quite right and perhaps fortunate.

If ordinary citizens could be convicted of offences which they intended to commit, but never so much as committing the crime, they would be even fuller than they were at present. But that was not the present case.

Indeed the present case was the converse of that case. Here, the defendant newspapers with-out doubt had interfered with the administration of justice by rendering the trial of the government's claims against The Guardian and The Observer less effective. They had therefore committed the *actus reus*. The real question was whether they had the necessary *mens rea* or criminal intent.

Mens rea in the law of contempt was something of a *minifield*. The reason was that it was wholly the creature of the common law and had developed on a case-by-case basis, as no doubt it would continue to do.

The 1981 Act did not seek to systematise the approach of the courts. It simply defined a term of art, namely, the strict liability rule meaning "the rule of law whereby conduct may be treated as contempt of court as tending to interfere with the course of justice in particular legal proceedings regardless of intent to do so".

There might well be instances of conduct which would be treated as contempt of court regardless of intent to do so, but which did not fall within that defined term.

The contempt alleged against the defendants quite clearly fell within the category of contempt to which the Act applied and accordingly the limitations and defences set out in sections 2 to 5 applied.

The most important of those was section 2(3), which provided that the strict liability applies to a publication only if the proceedings in question are active within the meaning of this section at the time of publication.

The proceedings between government and The Guardian and The Observer newspapers were active in the sense that when the three newspapers published the Wright material and accordingly they could not be charged with contempt of court on a strict liability basis.

But that did not mean that they could not be charged on a basis which involved having regard to intent and, indeed, section 6(c) expressly contemplated and saved such a possibility.

That at once raised the question "What kind of intent?" In the light of the policy of Parliament as evidenced by section 6 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 and section 6 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981, Parliament intended to accept the recommendations of the Phillimore Committee, his Lordship was quite satisfied that what was contemplated, and what was "saved", was the power of the court to commit for contempt where the conduct complained of was specifically

intended to impede or prejudice the administration of justice.

Such an intent did not need to be expressly avowed or admitted, but could be inferred from all the circumstances, including the foreseeability of the consequences of the conduct.

Nor did it need to be the sole intention of the contemnor.

His Lordship summed up the position:

1 Confidential information, whatever its nature - personal, financial, technical or security - had one essential common characteristic. It was irretrievably damaged in its confidential character by every publication and the more widespread the publication, the greater the damage.

2 If *prima facie* claim to confidentiality could be established, but that was opposed by a claim of a right to publish, whether on grounds of the public interest or otherwise, those opposing and wholly irreconcilable claims had to be evaluated and balanced the one against the other.

3 The public interest in ensuring that disputes were resolved justly and by due process of law might require a different balance to be struck at different stages. Thus, pending the trial of the action, the balance would normally come down in favour of preserving confidentiality, for the obvious reason that if that was not done and publication was permitted, there would be nothing left to have a trial about.

4 It was for the courts, and not for either of the opposing parties, to decide where, in the public interest, that balance lay.

5 Third parties, strangers to the action, who knew that the court had made orders or accepted undertakings designed to protect the confidentiality of the information pending the trial, committed a serious offence against justice if they took action which would damage or destroy the confidentiality which the court was seeking to protect and so rendered the due process of law ineffectual.

6 If such third parties, having a legitimate interest in so doing, conducted a campaign of publicity, the court would have to decide whether they should be taken into account in the court which would hear them and make any modification of its orders which might be appropriate. Similarly they should be taken into account in the court which would hear them and make any modification of its orders which might be appropriate. Similarly they should be taken into account in the court which would hear them and make any modification of its orders which might be appropriate.

7 It was for the courts, and not for third parties, to decide whether, balancing competing public and private interests including those of the third parties, confidentiality should continue to be preserved at any particular time.

His Lordship would answer the question raised on the appeal by holding that the conduct of the defendants could constitute a criminal contempt of court, but that it was impossible to say whether it did or did not do so until they had been given an opportunity of being further heard and the court had determined whether, in so conducting a campaign of publicity, the defendants intended to impede or prejudice the administration of justice.

His Lordship would allow the appeal and remit the matter to the High Court.

Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Balcombe delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor, Oswald Hickson Collier & Co; D. J. Freeman & Co; Victor Miahson & Co.

Degree awards announced by the University of Wales, Aberystwyth

Faculty of Arts J. H. Hammers Class II (Ow) 1: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 2: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 3: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 4: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 5: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 6: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 7: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 8: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 9: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 10: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 11: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 12: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 13: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 14: J. H. Hammers (Classical Studies and History) Class II (Ow) 15: J. H. 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POLO: GRACIDA AND MACKENZIE CLASH IN GOLD CUP FINAL OF THE BRITISH OPEN

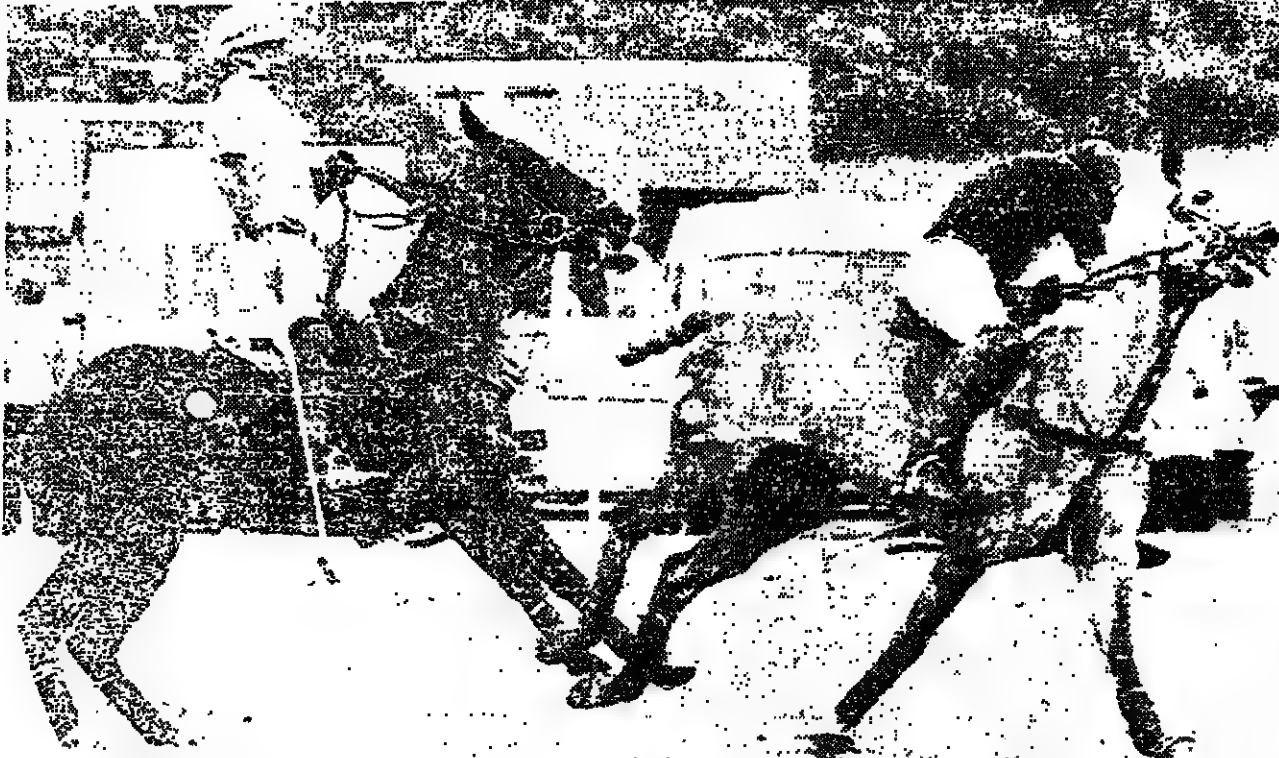
Windsor look to have the edge

By John Watson

The British Open championships reach their climax at Cowdray Park this weekend with four finals. The championships attracted 14 entrants, a record, and were contested on a twin-league basis to the final stage.

This afternoon, the third-placed team in each league, Galen Weston's Maple Leafs and Rio Pardo, who are put together by Ricardo Mansur, of Brazil, will challenge for the Jack Gannon Trophy. The fourth-placed team, Chopendow, from the Royal Berkshire Club, and the French team, Giscours, contest the Tatham Cup.

Tomorrow, the two league leaders, Tramontana and Windsor Park, will face each other for the major trophy, the



Horse sense: An abrupt halt is required as Rio Pardo (right) blunt their opponents' attack (Photograph: John Williams)

FINAL TEAMS

WINDSOR PARK: 1. G. Kent (4); 2. C. Forsyth (6); 3. S. Mackenzie (8); back, N. H. The Prince of Wales (4).
TRAMONTANA: 1. A. Embrocus (8); 2. R. Gonzalez (6); 3. C. Gracida (10); back, D. Morrison (3).
BONWICKS: 1. Lord Maitland (11); 2. G. Donoso (7); 3. H. Hewood (9); back, M. Glue (5).
SOUTHFIELD: 1. J. Wade (7); 2. A. Kent (7); 3. G. Rutherford (9); back, M. Brown (3).
MAPLE LEAFS: 1. G. Waddington (8); 2. R. Watson (8); 3. J. Hewood (9); back, G. Watson (3).
RIO PARDO: 1. Lord Tyrone (4); 2. A. Seavill (4); 3. M. Gracida (10); back, R. Mansur (4).
GISCOURS: 1. G. Tan (3); 2. W. Lucas (4); 3. L. Macaire (8); back, S. Macaire (7).
CHOPENDOW: 1. A. Galvan (8); 2. Lord C. Beresford (6); 3. D. Seavill (9); back, D. Morrison (3).

Davidoff Gold Cup; and Lord Maitland's Bonwicks and David Yeoman's Southfield, who came second in their leagues, contest the Davidoff Trophy.

Tramontana, the 1986 winners, are the inspiration of the

Anglo-Greek player. Anthony Embrocus, himself a fast and useful No. 1. The team's main strength is imposed in the Mexican cousins, Carlos Gracida, a 10-handicap man, and Roberto Gonzalez, a six-goaler. David Jamison, though only a three, has proved a steady back for them.

Their opponents, Windsor Park, came through without a single defeat, their success stemming from the dynamic partnership of the New Zealanders, Stuart Mackenzie and Cody Forsyth. The Prince of Wales plays their back position most reliably, and Geoffrey Kent, their patron, is a dashing No. 1.

Both teams draw on large and exceptionally high-quality strings of ponies. Embrocus and Kent have spared no expense in seeing to that. Windsor have the slightly better balanced front and their scintillating New Zealand pair are likely to have the edge on Tramontana's Mexican power base.

There is not much to choose between the seconds, Southfield and Bonwicks. Fielding that great trio, Martin Brown, Alan Kent and the Virginian, Owen Rinehart, Southfield carried off all three of the high-goal tournaments so far completed this season. Yet, with

two league defeats, they have had a somewhat disappointing British Open career.

It may be that their ponies are getting a little stale. Bonwicks' line-up includes three outstanding players, the nine-goaler, Howard Hipwood, to win the Hampshire, Gabriel Donoso, of Chile, and Martin Glue, a formidable back, who rides fine New Zealand thoroughbreds.

As for this afternoon's matches, my bet goes on Maple Leafs, who pivot on Britain's senior player, Julian Hipwood, to win the Jack Gannon; and Giscours, whose principal strength comes from

the Macaire brothers, Lionel and Stefan, for the Tatham.

The finals come as the end of a long qualifying series for the teams. The initial twin leagues comprised 42 matches starting on July 7 and finishing on July 16. Only quartets whose players' handicaps aggregated 17 to 22 goals were eligible to enter.

The majority of the encounters were played at Cowdray Park West Sussex, the time-honoured home of the British Open, with a few local Windsor and Gloucestershire-based foursomes competing at Smith's Lawn and Cirencester Park.

Becher's Brook to remain as it is

Becher's Brook, the world's most famous fence and scene of Dark Ivy's death in this year's Grand National, will not be changed.

The Jockey Club, accepting the recommendation of the Aintree Board, made the decision after considering an appeal from the RSPCA to modify the fence.

Chris Collins, Aintree chairman and a former amateur rider who finished third in the 1965 National, said: "Various modifications were considered, but would either have been superficial, completely changed the character of the fence, or introduced extra risks. In the context of the RSPCA's supreme test, Becher's is a fair fence to ask horses and riders to jump."

David Wilkins, the RSPCA's chief veterinary officer, was unhappy with the decision. "I am very concerned that the RSPCA will mean that horses might be killed or injured by a hazard that it is perfectly possible to correct," he said.

"The alteration to the character of the fence is hardly relevant to the safety of the horses and jockeys may be at risk."

The RSPCA believes that Dark Ivy's fatal fall "mirrored almost exactly the death of Alverton" at the same fence in 1979. They wanted the angle of the slope on the landing side of the fence to be altered.

In the last 20 years, 10 horses have died in the National, four of them at Becher's. The RSPCA has pledged to keep up pressure on the Jockey Club to change their minds.

Webber loses race through biscuits in feed

For the third time in five months, John Webber, the Banbury trainer, has fallen victim to the Jockey Club's tough laws on prohibited substances.

At a disciplinary inquiry at Potters Bar, yesterday, Webber's Tormore Green was disqualified from a race at Nottingham in March because a minute amount of caffeine and theobromine was discovered in a post-race test.

Webber was not fined, however, because the disciplinary committee was satisfied he had taken all reasonable precautions and the substance had not been administered intentionally.

The level of illegal substance, revealed as one third of a part per million, was caused by feed which contained waste chocolate biscuits.

Mtoto on course for Ascot with soft going proviso

From Michael Seely, Lexington, Kentucky

Mtoto is to take his chance in next Saturday's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes. Alec Stewart said here yesterday that Ahmed Maktoum's conqueror of Reference Point and Triptych in the Eclipse Stakes would take on that pair again at Ascot, provided the ground does not become soft.

"The horse worked well at Newmarket on Wednesday before I left," said the trainer. "I am very hopeful that he'll stay a mile and a half. But he's got such a marvellous action that I don't think he'd be as effective in the mud. In fact he ran badly in such conditions last year."

This exciting news means that the royal course's great test of the generations and sexes should once again prove the most important race of the season in Britain. At Sandown, Mtoto produced a devastating burst of speed over 10 furlongs and, if the Busted colt can stay the extra two furlongs, he should prove difficult to overcome.

However, Henry Cecil is thirsting for revenge and the six-times champion trainer was exuding confidence over his bacon and tomatoes in a Letter to the Editor. Reference Point has an outstanding chance of compensating Warren Place for Oh So Sharp's neck defeat by Petoski in 1985.

"The colt had his last serious work on Wednesday," he said. "He galloped with tremendous zest. Because of the firm going I hadn't been able to get him fully fit at Sandown. This time, and back over his right distance, I am very, very hopeful."

The hotel dining room was more like a trainers' convention as the top men in the game perused their catalogues for the Fasig-Tipton and Keeneland July sales and whispered to their

associates. But Michael Stoute still had current business in hand when he said: "I want to give Unie as much time as possible to make certain she's in peak form. I will probably make a decision on Tuesday."

Unite, so impressive in her easy defeats of Bourbon Girl in the English and Irish Oaks, would be bidding to become the only filly, apart from Dahlia, to complete the double of the Irish classic and the Diamond Stakes. She would also be attempting to repeat Sheraga's 1981 triumph for the reigning champion trainer.

During the past 10 days Celestial Storm has been the best-backed horse in the race, the four-year-old's odds having been cut from 6-1 to 4-1 as the fluent winner of Newmarket's Princess of Wales's Stakes completes his preparation for the big day.

However, Luca Cumani was his realistic self when he commented Mtoto couldn't be more pleased with him. But, although I am sure he's improved this season and will run a great race, the form book says that he's still got a lot to prove."

The Newmarket trainer, famous for his successes in valuable handicaps, was nevertheless amazed to hear that Imperial Frontier, last season's winner of the Somerville Tattersall Stakes at Newmarket has been backed from 20-1 to 10-1 for Europe's richest handicap, the Schweppes Golden Mile at Goodwood.

"I would be asking far too much of the colt to win a competitive handicap first time out," he said. "In fact he won't run and is going for the Surplice Stakes at the same meeting. I've got five other horses in the Schweppes race including Lashing and White Mischief, but I've not yet made a firm plan."

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Oakworth to lead way

From Our French Racing Correspondent, Paris

Oakworth stands a fine chance of giving the British their first win in the Prix Robert Papin since Sun Prince in 1971 when he contests the group two race at Maisons-Laffitte tomorrow.

Bill Watts's two-year-old made a brave attempt to lead throughout in Royal Ascot's Coventry Stakes but had to give best to Always Fair close home. Similar tactics may be employed by Steve Causton over this morning's shortening, as Oakworth and Oakworth looks sure to go close.

Kentucky Slew is highly-regarded by Francois Boutin and may prove best of the local opposition. He met interference

in running in his first two outings but made no mistake when winning the Prix Radis Rose on July 8.

Arabian Falcon, Strong Man and Balawaki have all won the two races to date and will be well supported in this first opportunity of the season to compare the leading juveniles on each side of the Channel.

Today, Just Class (Gerald Mosse) represents Steve Norton in the group three Prix Chloé at Evry. A winner three times this year, Just Class shares top-weight with the very useful Liberrine (Alain Leleux) and there two fillies should fight out the finish.

Leading Britons start uphill task of restoring glory days to French football

Facing French francs and fracas

Paris (AFP) — France might be the European champions, and they might have contested the last two World Cup semi-finals, but these facts do little to disguise the mediocrity of a club scene in which UEFA have been forced to reduce French entries into European competitions to four clubs.

In an attempt to find a remedy, the French clubs have been throwing francs at foreign players — and especially British ones with a hankering for the sweet life — like petals falling in spring.

Yet the England internationals, Hoddle and Hateley (Monaco) and Wilkins (Paris St Germain) and Scotland's Johnston (Nantes) and Black (Niez) might find that life is not all roses when the season starts today. Prices might be going through the roof — Monaco paying £1.5 million for their England pair and Racing Paris paying their international, Fernandez, £70,000 per month. Yet the harsh truth is that the quality of play often does not match the salaries.

Some are already seeing the dangers of even the more modest players jumping on this salary spiral when clubs averaged crowds of only 10,000 last season. One club president remarked that Maradona's training sessions with Napoli attracted more spectators than many of their first division matches.

This lack of atmosphere, quality and ambition forced Lerby, the Danish in-

ternational, to abandon an idyllic tax-free life in Monte Carlo for PSV Eindhoven in The Netherlands after one season. With the Platini-led old guard mostly in retirement and the young talent, if it is there at all, proving fickle and elusive, a heavy weight rests on the five British and 15 other foreign players to bring the crowds streaming back, especially when the first division scored fewer goals than ever last season.

Hoddle and Hateley, who will at least receive the support of Battistone, the French international sweeper, have an especially large task to boost Monaco from their dismal 4,500 average home gate last season.

Wilkins, too, will have his work cut out to restore the fortunes of Paris St Germain, where he will need to fend off the challenges of Susic, the unpredictable Yugoslav, and Calderon, of Argentina, for two team places. His manager, Houllier, the former English teacher, is however an ardent admirer of British football and also tried to tempt Hoddle, Barnes, Nicholas and Hill to the club.

"What seems important is that the French clubs have not just taken any British player," he said. "Quite a few were offered, like Archibald, McCoist or McClair, and I think the choices have been sensible. I am convinced that the British are going to be really very good."

Meade, the former Arsenal forward who has been with Sporting Lisbon,

could also land in France. He is sought by Brest.

Johnston also has an uphill battle at Nantes, where he must maintain his proven goalscoring record and keep out of trouble off the pitch to enable the club to shrug off a poor last season. The Scotland forward will, however, receive strong support from Vercateren, the experienced Belgian international midfielder, signed from Anderlecht.

Despite the fistfuls of francs flying around for foreign players, perhaps the most interesting feature is the French FA allowing Racing Club Paris to rename themselves Matra Racing Paris. Matra, a large arms and electronics concern, plans to invest hundreds of millions of francs over 10 years, but it has not kept the club clear of controversy. Zvonka, the manager, walked out days after Jorge, who steered FC Porto to the European Cup two months ago, was appointed coach. Francescoli, who has just helped Uruguay retain the South American title, is also refusing to return.

"There are too many problems in this club, problems so serious that everyone wants to leave although we are paid well," Francescoli said. "That proves it isn't just a question of money."

This may prove an epitaph for French football — unless the British players can succeed where dozens of other famous imports have failed.

TENNIS

Davis Cup tie gets a red alert

New Delhi (AP) — Crack commands, anti-air force, bomb disposal squads, fire fighters and a security "red alert" normally have nothing to do with tennis. But for three days, beginning on July 24, about 2,000 Indian police and paramilitary personnel will be on duty when India play India in the quarter-final of the Davis Cup.

"There will be more police than spectators: in fact, two policemen for every person watching the match from the stands," a police officer said.

The precautions are being taken because India has no diplomatic relations with Israel and is a vocal supporter of the Arab world. It has threatened to boycott the 1974 Asian Games in Tehran.

However, under threat of a \$10,000 fine and three years' suspension from Davis Cup play, India agreed to play the match and did not opt to move it to a neutral venue.

"The Indian Government told us that it was de-linking sports with diplomacy, but the reality is different," Khaled El-Sheikh, the ambassador of the Palestine Liberation Organization, said.

The Israeli team is due to arrive today and one worry for police is that more than 6,000 Arab students, half of them Palestinian, study in India. It is feared they may try to interfere with the team or disrupt the tie.

Another problem is that more than 600,000 Muslims live in New Delhi and posters proclaiming "PLO brothers, we are with you" have appeared on the walls of India's largest mosque, Jama Masjid, in Old Delhi.

"We believe it is a brave decision to host the Israeli team," Oded Ben-Hur, the Israeli vice-consul in Bombay, said. "We have full confidence in Indian security standards."

To discourage spectators, the Delhi Lawn Tennis Association has decided not to create extra seats, the usual practice for big matches. "We are making arrangements for only 1,000 spectators, of whom 250 will be complimentary," the DLTA spokesman, Yaswant Singh, said.

The Indians will have the advantage of playing on grass because Ramesh Krishnan and Vijay Amritraj are acknowledged experts on the surface. Israel's leading player, Amos Mansdorf, is a clay-court specialist but the Israelis practised on grass courts in England last week.

TEL AVIV: Israeli tourists and journalists have been turned back from New Delhi airport in an apparent travel ban in the run-up to the Davis Cup tie (AFP reports).

Newbury

Going good

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TABLE 1. *Continued*

GOLF: AMERICAN FORMER CHAMPION LOOKS AT HOME IN ADVERSE CONDITIONS WHILE HIS SPANISH COUNTERPART STRUGGLES TO FIND HIS TOUCH

Ressurgent Watson looks to have weathered the storm

By David Miller

It has never been my misfortune to endure a winter in Kansas. They say it can be nasty. Without the slightest sense of irony, Tom Watson was yesterday explaining that Muirfield's summer is no impediment to his game on account of the experience he is usually encountering on the course back home in January.

Yesterday's East Lothian bleakness, even more wretched than for last year's Commonwealth Games, can only be described as foul. After 18 holes accompanying Messrs Watson, Coupland and Lyle in steady rain and westerly winds, it took a half-hour thaw in the Press tent to become acquainted with one's pen. Watson had breezed round the course with almost a permanent smile: he positively enjoyed it.

Certainly he is, at 37, once more looking every inch the potential champion after a three-year interruption to his sequence of five victories in nine years. "Rain?" he asked, "what rain?" Wind? It certainly was not strong enough to force up the scores, he thought.

"This was a little drizzly," he said with a grin. "Now,

sleet — that's tough. I'd like to see the wind pick up a little right now."

You would think he was attempting psychological warfare on the opposition, but he is too nice a man for that. It is simply that the crazy Scottish weather makes him feel at home.

"It's delightful to come back to Muirfield," he said, "to have the same feeling I had in 1980, though I wish I had the same feeling on the greens. I love the texture of the grass here, the wind, the people."

Watson is still a little concerned about his putting. "If I put well, I can win," he has been known as the man who did not miss the one from four feet coming back, but recalls that Nicklaus once warned him: "Just wait till you're 37!"

He moved yesterday with the ease and comfort of a bull at a collie on the moors, ears pricked, head erect, supple in every movement. He must be the most economic player on the course: a quick look at the lie, a glance at the green, a sniff of the wind, a brief address, and the ball is on its way, obedient as a sheep. Left to him, a round would take an hour less.

Here is the mood of a man at ease with himself. It has been fun, he said, but he is at a time of life, he admits, when every tournament no longer feels as if it were the Open. Life isn't like that any more.

Watson's debonair attitude was in contrast to Lyle's, who brooded over what he seemed to regard as misfortune, yet had a second round of three under par to finish two over. He had thrown his ball into a hedge when going seven over par at the second, and was still thumping the ground in continuing irritation when his wedged approach brought a birdie at the eighth. Like Watson, he hit five birdies in the round.

Another had come at the next hole. His short-iron approaches are one of his strengths and now he left himself four feet from the pin, and, for a change, he holed it. Then another at the 11th. He nearly chipped in for an eagle from the back of the 17th.

Coupland, having arrived hot-foot from Palm Springs and a temperature of 120 deg. from the sixth hole was waiting between shots what looked like a knitted red oven glove on his left hand. He was three under at the fifth, only to drop three shots over the next five holes.

He has an agreeable manner and an easy swing, and as he exhaled after driving from the tee, his breath would hang in the cold air. His petite wife provided a fresh, dry cashmere pullover at the turn, and followed him with the big crowd, but her loyalty was unrewarded.

As Watson arrived on the green in front of the clubhouse, the cheer was even warmer than for Lyle. His putt from 30 feet, tipped the hole for a birdie, just as it did for what would have been an eagle at the fifth.

He could have been six or seven under. In form weather, he shone like a lighthouse.



Poised to strike: Tom Watson puts for a birdie at the 18th on a day when everything went right (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Ballesteros is back on course at last

By John Hennessy

Just when there was a fear that Ballesteros might miss the 36-hole cut at Muirfield, he dispelled many of his frustrations with a spectacular run of three birdies in the last four holes to come in with a 70 and a total of 143, one over par. The prediction at that time was that the puttline would fall at four or five over.

Until then he seemed to be carrying the worries of the world on his broad shoulders. At one point, on the second fairway, he bent double and beat a tattoo on his forehead with his right hand for the day when, at last, a long putt had just struck his second shot, from the middle of the fairway, 40 feet wide of the hole. He had done much the same thing at the

previous hole, and was to do so again for most of the round.

In those circumstances, Ballesteros could hardly complain about the absence of birdies, although he was to argue later that even a 24-handicap would hope to get one in now and then.

For much of the time there was thunder on his brow until an air of resignation set in. It seemed that he no longer expected justice in a cruel world. True, he had finally secured a birdie at the ninth, but, for a professional, this was a rather humdrum day. Professionals had just a five at a long hole as a shot dropped.

The Spaniard could not remember ever having to wait 27 holes for a birdie. The sequence,

in fact, stretches back even further, since his last birdie on the last day of his previous tournament occurred at the 14th. In pure statistics, therefore, he had played 30 successive holes without getting under par.

Ballesteros had had a chance from 15 feet at the third, but missed the putt quite comfortably, and looked to the heavens in despair when his tee shot to the 130-yard fourth was a long way off target. "Por qué?" he seemed to be asking.

If heaven knew why, it was to be a long time before there was an answer. He was over par for the day when, at last, a long putt from 25 feet or more dropped in. A wry flicker of a smile was all the emotion he showed. He struck his tee shot at

the short 16th and his second to the 18th close enough for light-male birdies, authentic Ballesteros strokes both, but an extraordinary lapse intervened.

With a three-wood second, he was one of the few to reach the 17th green (550 yards), but from 30 feet he left his eagle putt three feet short and missed the second. Ballesteros, twice winner of the Open Championship, had set out, he said afterwards, with three aims: first, to beat the cut; second, to get into a winning position; third, to carry off the title once again.

He has gained the first objective. The others could follow today and tomorrow, but not if he continues to play as he did yesterday.

£55,000 for clubs in attic

By Michael Hobbs

A collection of 11 clubs and a few balls that had long been gathering dust in the attic of Blair Castle were auctioned for £55,000 at Christie's sale of golf memorabilia in Glasgow this week.

The highest price for one of the clubs — £6,000 for the Royal and Ancient — was fetched by a long-nosed spoon, which, like the eight other wooden clubs in the group, was made by John Jackson, of Perth, and dated from about 1830 by Christie's. Some were fine, many, sign of use and they largely accounted for the high prices achieved — £1,850 to £6,000 each.

The treasure trove was discovered in an umbrella stand in the attic and the stand also contained two early irons said to be 160 and more years old, which fetched £9,200, and four leather golf balls, which went for a total of £6,700. The Duke of Atholl's umbrella stand realized nearly half the total sale value of £120,000.

In the Phillips sale, featuring the Hopkins paintings, the highest price was achieved by the picture we featured on Tuesday — £2,800. Altogether the watercolours fetched £42,000. Remarkably, each was bought by a London collector.

The highest price in either auction, £7,600, was achieved by a slim booklet of golf drawings by George Aikman, published in 1888. The poem, *Golfers' Sketches*, which was the first prose golf book, *Rules of the Thistle Golf Club (1824)*, failed to reach its reserve.

The highest price for a club was £3,100 for a Philip long spoon.

The Royal North Devon Club Golf have retained all of their Hopkins paintings with Westwood Hol subject matter. A London dealer and a few others bought the remainder, which include the Royal St George's, Hoylake, Old Manx, Chester and, most important, to St Andrews. It is the St Andrews pictures, featuring rare portraits of the great Young Tom Morris, which seem almost essential to the proposed national golf museum. These are still in this country.

The Royal North Devon has an excellent small museum at Westwood Hol which is being rehoused this autumn and is open to the public.

Rummells on rampage

Cool Valley, Illinois (Reuter) — David Rummells returned eight birdies in a 63, seven strokes under par, to take a one-shot first-round lead in the \$500,000 (about £100,000) Illinois Golf Classic on Thursday. The American began with birdies over the first three holes and turned in a superb six-under-par 29.

"I've been looking forward to this tournament all year," Rummells said. He putted just 24 times during his round. "I can't ever recall needing only 24 putts in a PGA tour event before."

The second-year professional leads Brad Fabel and Mark McCumber, also of the United States, who each recorded rounds of 64. D. A. Weibring,

the champion here in 1979, is one of five players on 65. Nine others are grouped on 66.

McCumber, who won last week's Williamsburg Classic, is seeking to become the first player since Bernhard Langer in 1985 to win consecutive PGA events. Nearly half the field of 149 players scored in the 60s over the par-70 course.

● DANYERS: Cathy Marino, Amy Alcott and Sally Quinlan, all of the United States, returned five-under-par rounds of 67 to share a one-shot first-round lead in the \$300,000 Boston Five Women's Golf Classic in Massachusetts (Reuter report). Mrs Marino recorded seven birdies, while Miss Alcott managed six. A local player, Miss Quinlan shot four birdies.

SHOOTING

Surrey put in control by Cooper

By Our Shooting Correspondent

Surrey retained the English county championship and the King George V Cup at Bisleigh, beating their home county of last year by eight points, a total that would have only shared fifth spot yesterday instead of giving them their tenth win in 14 years.

The performances will add faith to the ammunition available for the target rifle events that will follow. David Cooper, the former Parachute Regiment padre, now at Eton College, was perfection, his every shot hitting the bull's-eye at 300, 500 and 600 yards. Many others dropped only a single point.

The military appearance at Bisleigh changed overnight as caravans and multi-coloured civilian tents blossomed for more than 1,300 people to begin the serious business of the Grand Aggregate and the Queen's Prize, the two major championships to be decided from today until next Saturday.

In a new event, the English schools scored 1,136 out of 1,200 to beat Channel Islands schools into second place by eight points, with the Scottish, Welsh and Irish trailing.

RESULTS: King George V Challenge Cup (English county championship): 1. Surrey, 1,181 (record); 2. Yorkshire, 1,181; 3. Essex, 1,180. Under Challenge Bowl (Schools national match): 1. England, 1,136; 2. Channel Islands, 1,128; 3. Scotland, 1,088. Public Schools Veterans (Veterans of the War): 1. Old Bedfordians, 254; 2. Old Merchant Taylors, 244; 3. Old Epworthians, 244 (on count-back). Dalmatian Cup (Boy Scouts): 1. Old Bedfordians, 244; 2. Old Epworthians, 240; 3. Uppingtonians, 239. Whifflet Cup (CIS teams): 1. Old Bedfordians, 232; 2. Old Epworthians, 230; 3. Old Merchant Taylors, 229.

These three are comprised in Britain's team. If they win their first round match they will meet Italy in the seventh seeds, or Belgium. Victory would bring Britain into the quarter-finals and guarantee three places, two singles and one doubles, in Seoul. "I'm sure our players will want to play in the Olympics," Miss Mappin said.

The United States, the top seeds, who include Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert, play Japan, Czechoslovakia, the 2 seeds, face Sweden.

ROWING

Top event goes on without top men

By Jim Railton

The British national rowing championships of Great Britain started yesterday with 165 heats and repechages for junior men and women lasting more than nine hours. By the time the last of the 56 finals is completed late tomorrow afternoon, there will have been 360 races over three days, lasting some 27½ hours. That takes some organization and perhaps a daily prayer that the wind which has blown away two regattas at Nottingham this year keeps its head well down over the weekend.

It was, however, the absence of several national squad crews that provided the main talking point so soon after the failure of so many of the national squad to attend Henley Royal Regatta. Some believe that it is not really a national championship if the supposed best crews are not taking part, but others do not mind. The latter consider it unfair for a club crew to compete against a national composite for a championship title.

At the same time there is a considerable body of opinion building up to suggest this is the wrong time of the year to hold the national championships. Over the last four weekends

there have been regattas involving British crews at Marlow, Amsterdam, Henley, Lucerne and now Nottingham.

There will be attempts to move the national championships to an earlier date in future, such as the weekend of the Nottinghamshire international at the end of May. The Nottinghamshire international is barely surviving. British open national championships for heavyweight and lightweight men's and women's crews will be held on the 19th and 20th. They would certainly add some flesh to this event and possibly attract top overseas crews.

An open British national championships would provide a season's Yorkshire derby against the rest of Europe's crews. The open British championships could be held on one long day leaving the second day for a separate international regatta. Such an event would be an attractive sponsorship package.

To achieve such a dream, the junior men and women would have to be unloaded. I suspect they would not mind holding their junior national championships on another weekend, when they can have the limelight to themselves.

FOOTBALL

Wilkinson starts a shake-up

Howard Wilkinson, the manager of Sheffield Wednesday, is preparing for a near-£1 million shake-up at Hillsborough. Yesterday he sold Glyn Snodin to Leeds United for £135,000, agreed a £135,000 deal to take Gary Sheehan to Oxford United, and allowed the defender, Mark Smith, to talk to Plymouth Argyle, with the asking price again £135,000.

The proceeds from the deals will be used to try to tempt the England defender, Mark Wright, from Southampton. Wilkinson has raised his offer for Wright to £800,000 — Wilkinson is considering an offer for the Queen's Park Rangers and England defender, Terry Fenwick.

Leeds' opening game of the season, a Yorkshire derby against Barnsley at Craven, has been switched from Saturday, August 15, to the following day at noon on police advice.

Michael Spinks, the Barnsley secretary, said: "History suggests Saturday matches with Leeds United create problems, and we want a trouble-free game."

Colin Lee, the Chelsea defender, has signed for Brentford, of the third division, for £17,500. Lee will also be the club's youth development officer.

Chelsea have turned down a shirt sponsorship deal worth in excess of £500,000 from an Italian footwear company. The club is already sponsored for playing and training footwear by an international sports shoes firm, and believe that a major sponsorship with a rival company would be counter-productive.

Derby have agreed a fee of £65,000 for their defender, Graham Harvey, who has joined Ipswich Town, of the second division.

Derby's winger, Jeff Chandler, yesterday travelled for talks with his former club, Bolton Wanderers. Chandler is on offer at around £20,000, and a final decision is expected early next week.

Gillingham yesterday paid Charlton Athletic £40,000 for the midfield player, George Shipley.

Chris Pearce, a goalkeeper, and Paul Cummins, a defender, joined Burnley from Wrexham yesterday following a League tribunal decision that the joint fee for the two players should be £12,000. Wrexham had asked for £35,000.

Shrewsbury Town have signed the Bristol City captain, Brian Williams, aged 31, only a few days after he had signed a new contract.

RUGBY UNION

Australians reject tour invitation

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Despite an appeal by the South African Rugby Board (SARB) for players to be allowed to visit their country on an individual basis, the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) decided yesterday to turn down an official invitation to tour this year and to discourage individuals from doing so.

It is the strongest statement of intent to emerge from the ARU since it received the tour invitation last year, despite a proviso that the union does not necessarily agree with South Africa's policy towards Australia.

The union decided "in compliance with Government policy, that it was unable to send a touring team to South Africa. Therefore, the union cannot approve of any Australian team touring South Africa at the present time nor will it support any group of individual Australian players and officials forming a team to represent Australia.

"Any officials or players involved in such a tour have acted

without the approval of the union."

The South African board obviously believes that it has received sufficient encouragement from individual Australian officials — on an unofficial basis — to justify the hope that it could fill the original 13-match schedule which was offered to Australia.

An SARB statement issued this week said: "We have played open cards with your representative(s) and we were assured, amongst others, at a special meeting in Hong Kong in December, 1986, that individual players will be allowed to come to our country and play here."

Addressed specifically to the ARU, the statement continued: "Even your Government acknowledged that, though opposed to the tour, they cannot interfere with the freedom of the individual. Having acted in good faith at all times, we now appeal to the ARU not to stand in the way of players who, have expressed their desire to come to South Africa."

MOTOR CYCLING

French pride has Sarron leading field

From Michael Scott, Le Mans

Natural caution in bad weather versus national pride upset normal form in the first day of practice for tomorrow's French Grand Prix at Sarthe, France, was fastest. The usual pole-position leader, Wayne Gardner, was tenth.

Randy Mamola was also off the pace in seventh, but with two more sessions today, he was unconcerned. "The guys prepared to take the most risks were fast today," the Californian said.

Heavy morning rain said Sarron fastest, but a drying track later meant everybody went quicker, although Sarron kept nearly a second ahead of the Didier de Radigues, the best practice by a Cagiva V4 500.

Ron Haslam was fifth on the French-designed Honda-powered Elf 4, the first time the British rider has committed himself to racing the revolutionary machine in preference to the works Honda. Kenny Irons, from Luton, was sixth, his best qualifying position on a twisty track that has been even tighter with the addition of two chicanes, minimizing his usual top speed disadvantage.

PRACTICE TIMES: 600cc: 1. C. Sarron (F), Yamaha, 1m 45.47sec; 2. D. de Radigues (Bel), Cagiva, 1m 46.41; 3. E. Lavigne (US), Yamaha, 1m 46.48; 4. R. Haslam (GB), Cagiva, 1m 46.58; 5. S. Sarron (GB), Elf, 1m 47.00; 6. K. Irons (GB), Suzuki, 1m 47.36. British practice: 1. M. Mackenzie (Hond), 1m 49.57; 2. R. Haslam (GB), 1m 50.14; 3. R. Sarron (Hond), 1m 50.57; 4. J. Sarron (Hond), 1m 51.31; 5. J. Sarron (Hond), 1m 51.31.

CYCLING

Cleveland bid to stage championship

From Peter Bryan, Bergamo

Britain has made an application here to stage the 1989 world junior championship, the cost to be underwritten by Cleveland County Council.

Ian Emmerson, president of the British Cycling Federation, has made presentations to delegates here, accompanied by Brian Cossavella, of the Cleveland County Council Leisure Department. "Once Cleveland confirmed their willingness to promote the event, we were delighted to put in our application to the international union," Emmerson said yesterday.

The only other country to express interest in the championship is the Soviet Union, but their delegate has promised to determine whether they are prepared to choose an alternative date and leave Britain's application unopposed.

Should Cleveland be awarded the event, the track events would be held on the 45km bowl at Middleburgh. The road race circuit is likely to be in Hartlepool, but discussions still continuing with police about the team time trial course.

The Cleveland Grand Prix, a major meeting, has been held in Middleburgh for the past 12 years. Cossavella said these experienced officials would have adequate time to organize the championship. "Having seen what Bergamo has provided as hosts in the past week, I am confident we can make a successful and friendly championship," he said.

ATHLETICS

PARIS: 800m sprint: Marc 100m: 1. R. Stewart (US), 1m 22.55sec; 2. S. Floyd (US), 1m 23.10; 3. C. G. (US), 1m 23.15. 1500m: 1. R. Stewart (US), 3m 55.10; 2. H. Thomas (US), 3m 55.10; 3. C. G. (US), 3m 55.10. 5000m: 1. J. S. (US), 15m 45.55sec; 2. J. S. (US), 15m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 15m 45.55. 10000m: 1. J. S. (US), 31m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 31m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 31m 45.55. 20000m: 1. J. S. (US), 63m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 63m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 63m 45.55. 40000m: 1. J. S. (US), 127m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 127m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 127m 45.55. 80000m: 1. J. S. (US), 254m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 254m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 254m 45.55. 160000m: 1. J. S. (US), 508m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 508m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 508m 45.55. 320000m: 1. J. S. (US), 1016m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 1016m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 1016m 45.55. 640000m: 1. J. S. (US), 2032m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 2032m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 2032m 45.55. 1280000m: 1. J. S. (US), 4064m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 4064m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 4064m 45.55. 2560000m: 1. J. S. (US), 8128m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 8128m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 8128m 45.55. 5120000m: 1. J. S. (US), 16256m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 16256m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 16256m 45.55. 10240000m: 1. J. S. (US), 32512m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 32512m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 32512m 45.55. 20480000m: 1. J. S. (US), 65024m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 65024m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 65024m 45.55. 40960000m: 1. J. S. (US), 130048m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 130048m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 130048m 45.55. 81920000m: 1. J. S. (US), 260096m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 260096m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 260096m 45.55. 163840000m: 1. J. S. (US), 520192m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 520192m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 520192m 45.55. 327680000m: 1. J. S. (US), 1040384m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 1040384m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 1040384m 45.55. 655360000m: 1. J. S. (US), 2080768m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 2080768m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 2080768m 45.55. 1310720000m: 1. J. S. (US), 4161536m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 4161536m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 4161536m 45.55. 2621440000m: 1. J. S. (US), 8323072m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 8323072m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 8323072m 45.55. 5242880000m: 1. J. S. (US), 16646144m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 16646144m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 16646144m 45.55. 10485760000m: 1. J. S. (US), 33292288m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 33292288m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 33292288m 45.55. 20971520000m: 1. J. S. (US), 66584576m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 66584576m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 66584576m 45.55. 41943040000m: 1. J. S. (US), 133169152m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 133169152m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 133169152m 45.55. 83886080000m: 1. J. S. (US), 266338304m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 266338304m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 266338304m 45.55. 167772160000m: 1. J. S. (US), 532676608m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 532676608m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 532676608m 45.55. 335544320000m: 1. J. S. (US), 1065353216m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 1065353216m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 1065353216m 45.55. 671088640000m: 1. J. S. (US), 2130706432m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 2130706432m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 2130706432m 45.55. 1342177280000m: 1. J. S. (US), 4261412864m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 4261412864m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 4261412864m 45.55. 2684354560000m: 1. J. S. (US), 8522825728m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 8522825728m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 8522825728m 45.55. 5368709120000m: 1. J. S. (US), 17045651456m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 17045651456m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 17045651456m 45.55. 10737418240000m: 1. J. S. (US), 34091302912m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US), 34091302912m 45.55; 3. J. S. (US), 34091302912m 45.55. 21474836480000m: 1. J. S. (US), 68182605824m 45.55; 2. J. S. (US),

Faldo passes the screen test

By Mitchell Platt
Golf Correspondent

Nick Faldo moved into familiar territory, and onto the heels of the American, Paul Azinger, the early halfway leader, with a score of 69 in the second round at Muirfield yesterday.

Azinger seized the baton from Rodger Davis (73), of Australia, with a score of 66 for a 36-hole aggregate of 136, six under par. Faldo, however, is only one stroke behind along with Gerry Taylor (68), another Australian, and Payne Stewart (65), of the United States.

Elsewhere, Carl Mason, who was the leading British player when the Open was last played at Muirfield in 1980, emphasized his liking for the course with a 69 for 139 and Ian Woosnam also took 69 for 142.

Ross Drummond, the Scottish professional champion, went birdie, eagle from the 15th to bring in an extraordinary card of 66, the lowest of the day. Thus he defied all expectations, for he had opened with a 79 yesterday and taken a double bogey six at the first.

Faldo went out early in the day, when persistent rain provided more of a handicap than the wind, which strengthened in the afternoon then died to a whimper as Azinger and Davis completed their rounds.

At the 10th hole Faldo sent to the locker room for a new towel. "We needed it to keep the grips of the clubs dry," he said.

The conventional ambition of a British player is to win the Open, and no home player has in recent years been such a consistent challenger as Faldo.



More Open reports on page 42

Since 1978 he has on only two occasions finished outside the leading 12. It must have been a dagger-thrust to his pride when Sandy Lyle won in 1985.

Yet Faldo remains a player with the game for the links. He rarely takes gambles, so limiting the number of destructive shots in his round. It is the key to successful golf on links courses, and Faldo wove around Muirfield's two loops of nine holes in splendid style.

His quest for a consistent swing led him to seek tuition from the Florida-based teacher, David Leadbetter. Last week Leadbetter was in Scotland at Faldo's request. Faldo arranged and paid for Leadbetter to travel in first-class style to Glenageary, where a video was taken of his swing. "David sorted a couple of things out for me, and I've got the video to turn to for confirmation," he said.

Faldo certainly struck the ball with authority. His seven-iron to four feet earned for him a two at the seventh. A five-iron to three feet brought another birdie at the eighth. He is recognized as an excellent putter, but the longest

he holed was one of 12 feet at the 13th for another two.

Azinger is seeking to emulate Ben Hogan (1953) and Tony Lema (1964) by winning the Open at his first attempt. He has such a masterful touch on and around the green that there is no reason why he should not follow in the footsteps of his illustrious compatriots.

Taylor's progress was less predictable, unless you had been within earshot earlier this week of Charlie Epp, Greg Norman's coach. Epp took Taylor, aged 27 and one of a family of 10 children, to one side and gave him a sharp lecture. "You should be doing a lot better," he said. "You just haven't got faith in yourself. Play with a little more fire and you can be two shots better each round."

In fact, Taylor had had to hole from 35 feet after driving the green at North Berwick's 18th hole (270 yards) for an eagle two to survive the pre-qualifying scramble on Monday. Yesterday three of his six birdies came in four holes from the eighth and once

Card of course									
Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par	Hole
1	447	4	10	475	4	11	365	4	4
2	351	4	11	365	4	12	391	4	4
3	160	3	12	391	4	13	192	3	3
4	259	4	13	192	3	14	417	4	4
5	458	5	14	417	4	15	168	3	3
6	155	3	15	168	3	16	168	3	3
7	444	4	16	168	3	17	444	4	4
8	504	5	17	444	4	18	444	4	4
Out 3.51H 36 In 3.45H 36									
Total yardage: 6,983									

again his putter proved a valuable friend. He holed three times from more than 30 feet.

Davis lost the opportunity to retain the lead when he dropped a shot at two of the last four holes. So he slipped back alongside Faldo and Taylor, although one stroke further back is a group from which many observers would probably choose their eventual winner.

Tom Watson and Bernhard Langer have both completed successive rounds of 69. Watson would like his putting to be sharper and Langer would prefer to be driving the ball straighter. Even so, like Craig Stadler, who was also round 69 again, (although without incurring any penalty strokes this time), and the South African David Frost (68), they look in command of their games.

Norman, the defending champion, topped one shot at the tenth, and a second successive 71 for a score of 142 was less than he wanted. Even so, he is still a realistic threat, as is Severiano Ballesteros. The Spaniard had three birdies in his last four holes to finish with a 70 for 143. Lyle's hopes of regaining the title improved with a 69, although he is still nine shots behind Azinger.

Paul Mayo, the Amateur champion, had a splendid round of 70 for a total of 142. A six at the par-four tenth was his only setback. Elsewhere, the amateurs suffered severely, and it seemed unlikely that any other would survive the cut.

Palmer drove into a fairway bunker. He gambled from there with a four-iron, but the ball only just came out after hitting the lip. He struck a three-iron from there into the greenside bunker. "That I started to dig a hole that got deeper and deeper," he said.

The reception given to Palmer, aged 57, as he walked off the 18th green reflected the love that exists in the game for him.

"After I had worked so hard all day it made me mad to drop a shot at the 13th," he said. "I took it out on the next. I took a gamble and I paid for it."



Putting on the style: Faldo gets down to his work on the 18th green yesterday

SECOND ROUND SCORES

(Great Britain and Ireland unless stated)

136 PAZINGER (US), 68, 68	146 D COOPER, 74, 72 A STEVENS, 71, 75 C MOODY, 76, 70 G PLAYER (SA), 72, 74 S SIMPSON (US), 75, 71	153 S CIPA, 75, 78 R RAFFERTY, 75, 77 A PALMER (US), 73, 78 J BLAND (SA), 78, 74
137 N FALDO, 69, 69 G TAYLOR (AU), 68, 69 R DAVIS (AU), 64, 73	147 M KURAMOTO (JAP), 74, 73 B LANE, 76, 71 C O'CONNOR (IRL), 74, 73 J THORPE (US), 74, 73 G LEVENSON (SA), 75, 72 D GILFORD, 70, 77 D SMYTH, 72, 75	154 J ANDERSON (CAN), 77, 77 E O'CONNELL, 77, 77 S BOTTOMLEY, 61, 73
138 T WATSON (US), 69, 69 B LANGER (WG), 69, 69 D FROST (SA), 70, 69 C STADLER (US), 68, 69	148 M JAMES, 75, 73 R WEBB, 72, 76 M KING, 75, 73 V SOMERS (AU), 76, 72 S THOMAS, 73, 75 P HARRISON, 73, 75	155 J AMBRIDGE, 75, 80 F GEORGE, 74, 81
139 N PRICE (SA), 68, 71 C MASON, 70, 59 B TWAY (US), 67, 73	149 V FERNANDEZ (ARG), 78, 71 E WEBBER (ZIM), 77, 72 I YOUNG, 74, 72 A SORESENSEN (DEN), 74, 75 D LOVE II (US), 72, 77 M PERSSON (SWE), 72, 77 P WAT, 75, 74	158 D JONES, 80, 78
140 R FLOYD (US), 72, 69 I WOOSNAM, 71, 69	150 A HUNTER, 77, 73 J RIVERO (SV), 76, 74 S MCALLISTER, 75, 75 W LONGMUIR, 75, 71 C PAVIN (US), 73, 77 I BAKER-FINCH (AU), 74, 76 J RYSTRON (SWE), 73, 77	159 S HAMER, 81, 78
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144 F COUPLES (US), 70, 74 D EDWARDS (US), 71, 73 B MARCHBANK, 72, 72 G J BRAND, 72, 72		
145 M CALERO (SA), 71, 74 J NICKLAUS (US), 74, 71 S TORRANCE, 76, 69 A LYLE, 76, 69 L VILKARI (FIN), 70, 75 T OZAKI (JPN), 72, 73 S CHAMBLEE (US), 73, 72 H BAIOCHI (SA), 72, 73 M LANNER (SWE), 71, 74 T NAKAJIMA (JPN), 73, 72 M O'MEARA (US), 73, 72 H CLARK, 72, 73		

Botham turns the screw on Somerset

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

TAUNTON: Somerset (1st) drew with Worcestershire (2). There was only an hour's cricket at Taunton yesterday, but it was long enough for Ian Botham to achieve what he had come to do, which was to give his old county a drubbing.

In 51 balls he went from his overnight 53 to 126, despite turning down, sometimes rather ostentatiously, several long singles to distant fields. When the rain came a minute or two after noon, Worcestershire were 337 for four. As soon as the match was abandoned, soon after half-past three, Botham was on his way to the motorway to Muirfield.

This was his first hundred in first-class cricket since the first Test match against Australia in Brisbane eight months ago. He simply toyed with the Somerset bowling. His one blemish, and it was unlike him, was not to make as sure as he could that Neale, his captain, also got his hundred.

Instead, Botham monopolized the strike while Neale was suspended in the nineties and the rain closed in. Whether Roebuck thought Palmer needed to be taught a lesson for having been careless enough to fall down some stairs earlier in the match, which kept him from bowling on Thursday, I don't know. The punishment he was allowed to take yesterday morning (43 runs from his last five overs) rather suggested as much.

Pringle and Jones were let off no less lightly, Pringle's three overs costing 29 and Jones's five going for 42. Marks, who would have enjoyed a tussle with Botham and had kept him fairly quiet on Thursday evening, was not called up until 15 overs had brought 125 runs and then only in time to bowl one ball.

Botham's form will have been welcome news to the England selectors, who meet this morning to choose the side for next Thursday's fourth Test match. But he has done so little bowling recently that consideration was given yesterday to making sure he played for Worcestershire against the Pakistanis this weekend, instead of going to the Open Championship.

He was excused only through being under treatment for a grazed elbow, which has gone slightly septic. The selectors took Worcestershire's word for it that Botham would be well advised not to play today.

This means, though, that come next Thursday, the 23rd of the month, Botham will not have bowled in a first-class match since June 30, some-

thing which will have to be borne in mind when the Test side is being chosen. It is becoming increasingly questionable whether he can any longer be considered as one of five bowlers.

I imagine that to cover Botham, by being ready with a few overs, Gooch may come in for Robinson. French can be expected to return for Richards and possibly DeFreitas for Capel, on the grounds that DeFreitas's bowling is stronger than Capel's.

I should like to see Lamb come back, with England needing to win the last two Tests to level this series; but that would have to be at the expense of either Gower or Athey, and Athey is one of only two century-makers in this series so far, Robinson

Scoreboard

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings	
T S Curtis bowled	42
G J Lord run out	28
A J Miles bowled	6
D B Ollivier c Fallon b Jones	26
P A Neale not out	126
I T Smith not out	57
Extras (b 1, lb 10 w 4, nb 2)	17
Total (4 wickets, 89 overs)	337
Somerset: 1st Innings	
J J Roebuck bowled	27
P J Palmer bowled	43
G V Paine bowled	15
Extras (b 1, lb 10 w 4, nb 2)	17
Total (4 wickets, 27.4 overs)	278

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-80, 2-61, 3-86, 4-140.

BOWLING: Jones 27-6-70-1; Paine 12-6-42; Palmer 10-4-57-2; Harris 2-0-0-0; Somerset: P M Roebuck, M A Fallon, J E Hardy, M D Crowe, N J Pringle, R Marks, G V Paine and A N Jones. Umpires: K J Lyons and P B Wright.

In normal circumstances Roebuck might have lent a more sympathetic ear to Neale's suggestion before the start of play yesterday that the two of them should collude. Neale's proposal involved both sides forfeiting an innings, with Somerset being left something in the region of 280 in 85 overs.

Had Roebuck been agreeable to that, he might have saved himself some inconvenience. For one thing, Botham would not have got his hundred. Last year, in the corresponding match, he made an equally spectacular one - but that was for Somerset.

Imran's return

By Alan Lee

Imran Khan, who is not blind to accusations that he is becoming an absentee captain of the Pakistan tourists, returns to lead his side at Worcester today, having missed all three of their previous matches since he inspired their victory in the third Test match.

Not only has Imran rested from playing, he has also stayed away from the tour games, meeting up with the rest of the Pakistan players only at a weekend match in Blackpool organized as part of his benefit year. It is an odd - some would say baffling -

style of captaincy, but Imran is certainly not neglecting his fitness.

He spent two hours in the indoor nets at Lord's on Thursday, including a lengthy session batting against tennis balls to improve his technique against the rising delivery.

He said later: "I need to look after myself more carefully these days, preserving my strength for the major occasions, and I find I can achieve a lot by practising alone. There are plenty of gifted youngsters in our party who need regular cricket much more than I do."

Azinger thrives on the challenge

By Mitchell Platt

Paul Azinger continued to defy logic as he moved to the top of the leaderboard with a second successive score of 63 at Muirfield yesterday.

Azinger had never seen a "links" course before he arrived this week. He now looks as at home at Muirfield as he is on the stadium courses of the United States tour, where he has won three times this season and earned \$285,000.

"I'm enjoying the variety here," he said. "You can hit the ball high into the greens or bump and run it. At home you simply have to carry everything all the time."

Azinger, aged 27, has come from anonymity to stardom even though 10 years ago, when he was in high school, he could not break 40 for nine holes. He needed four attempts to pass through the United States PGA Tour

school and he had not won until this year.

What he has never been afraid of is hard work. He considered his bunker play "horrible" when he came out on tour, so he worked on it for two hours a day. He developed an individual technique, laying the blade wide open, and he is now No. 1 in the sand-saves statistics. "I am proud of that," he said.

He gave a marvellous demonstration of his touch with an astonishing recovery from a bunker at the last hole. "I thought I was dead," he said. "I have to admit it was one of the best bunker shots of my life. For a moment I thought it was in."

Azinger must now cope with the pressure of leading. "That's fine," he added. "If you don't contend, then you don't find out. You'd better welcome pressure or go home."

Beaten by the sands of time

For a while it was like days gone by for the legendary Arnold Palmer (Mitchell Platt writes). Then, as he took five attempts to escape from a bunker, it was like there was no tomorrow.

"I wouldn't say that God couldn't have got it out of there," Palmer said, "but he would have had to have thrown it."

Palmer had stood on the 14th tee at level par for his

second round. He was angry at having dropped a shot at the previous hole. By the time he walked off the next green he had dropped another six shots after a 10 - the first time he had run up double figures at a single hole in a major championship.

"After I had worked so hard all day it made me mad to drop a shot at the 13th," he said. "I took it out on the next. I took a gamble and I paid for it."

Facelift for Oval

Surrey have been given the go-ahead by Lambeth Council to redevelop the Oval, including the Ken Barrington Sports Centre, already funded by £1 million as part of a £2 million project.

Work will start as soon as the Department of the Environment approves Lambeth's bid for an urban development grant. "The scheme needs to be completed by next year's August Test against West Indies," Raman Subba Row, the County's management committee chairman, said.

Quick change
Bournemouth, the second division newcomers, have been taken over by the club's directors, leaving Eric Grove, the Birmingham property millionaire who bought the club last week, as the major sponsor.

Crossroads
Donald Curry, once among the most feared men in boxing, attempts to save his career tomorrow when he challenges Mike McCallum for the world junior-middleweight title in Las Vegas after losing his undisputed welterweight title to Lloyd Honeyghan, of Britain, last September.

SPORTS BRIEF



Dumfries: Porsche drive

Top partners
Johanne Dumfries, the former Lotus grand prix driver, will drive a 220mph BLR-Liqui Moly Porsche 962 in the Shell Gemini 1,000km endurance race at Brands Hatch next Sunday to replace Jonathan Palmer. Dumfries will partner Mauro Baldi, the Italian winner, last year.

Iron-willed
Sarah Springman and Sarah Coope, the British triathletes, are the favourites at the Ironman championships in Joireinen, Finland, today over the formidable distance of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile cycle ride and a 26.2-mile run. Springman is aiming for her fourth European Ironman title, while Coope seeks a clean sweep of European titles this year.

Britain slip

Britain were beaten by Austria in a jump-off in the Nations Cup in Falsterbo, Sweden, yesterday to play behind France and the United States in the team championship. Although the Whitaker brothers, John and Michael, were both clear, Harvey Smith and Nick Skelton hit fences.

Pill warning
Women at the 1988 Winter Olympics will be warned against brands of birth control pills that contain norethisterone and produce signs of steroids.

Ticket benefit
Portsmouth, promoted to the first division after 28 years, have already sold 8,000 season tickets compared with 2,500 last year. Four blocks of the South stand is nearly sold out.

Shaw out
Stephen Shaw, the British No. 3, was beaten by Ronald Agenor, of Haiti, in the quarter-final of the men's grand prix tennis tournament in Bordeaux yesterday.

Golden touch
Barry McGuigan, the former world featherweight boxing champion, will be paid £500,000 over three years to endorse Olympic Gold, the leisure company.

Elliott too fast for own good

From John Woodcock, Avignon

Malcolm Elliott, of Sheffield, gambled and lost in a frenetic finish to the seventeenth stage of the Tour de France here yesterday. Since finishing third on the twelfth stage at Bordeaux last Sunday, the Milk Race winner had been awaiting his chance for another crack at a sprint victory.

He commendably survived the Pyrenees on Monday and Tuesday, rode calmly the next two days when the battle for the yellow jersey precluded a sprint finish, and yesterday he saw a chance for success. But Elliott finished a disappointed sixth, only a few lengths behind the sprint ace, Jean-Paul Van Poppel, of The Netherlands, and Guido Bontempi, of Italy, at the end of a stage of 148.5 miles which began in the cool of the Tarn Gorges, crossed the ploughed Cevennes and then meandered across the windy plane of the Gard before the final, speedy conclusion along the banks of the Rhone.

"I wanted to win too much," Elliott said. "The little break I was in just took the edge off my sprint."

His "little break" began 12 miles from the finish, when with Teun Van Vliet, of the Dutch team, Panasonic, he joined his ANC-Halfords team colleague, Adrian

Timmis, and four other riders at the front. Ten more joined the group, but there were too many diversified interests and the pack quickly caught them.

After a vain attempt by the second-placed Jean-Francois Bernard, to escape from the race leader, Charly Mottet, Elliott again tried his luck six miles from home. This time, he attacked with Phil Anderson, of Australia, Marc Sergeant, of Belgium, and the Spaniard, Jose-Luis Navarro. They gained 200 yards, but there was no unity of effort and two miles later the 120-strong pack gobbled them up.

"The last five kilometres went so quickly I wasn't sure we were at the finish until we crossed the river," Elliott said. "I started to move up and got as high as Bontempi, who was getting a terrific lead-out from Stephen Roche and another of his team mates. Bontempi was in third, Van Poppel was on his wheel, and Adrian (Timmis) took me up as far as Van Poppel."

"I knew from the race manual there was a long hairpin turn before the finishing straight, and I came around Van Poppel on the outside, but it was the long way round. I was going much too fast, made a mess of the

corner, hit my pedal on the road, went wide and found myself out in the wind. I just went backwards from there."

It was Van Poppel's second win of the race and confirmed his leadership in the green jersey points competition. Of more interest was the active part played by Roche in the finishing sprint.

RESULTS: Seventeenth stage (228km): 1. J-P Van Poppel (NED), 2. J. Timmis (GBR), 3. M. Sergeant (BEL), 4. J. Navarro (ESP), 5. R. Knafl (AUT), 6. S. Bauer (GER), 7. J. M. Hernandez (ESP), 8. H. Jansen (NED), 9. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 10. H. Jansen (NED), 11. S. Swart (ZIM), 12. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 13. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 14. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 15. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 16. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 17. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 18. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 19. J. M. Lopez (ESP), 20. J. M. Lopez (ESP).

INVESTMENTS WISE AND FOOLISH

No 3

In 1886, Coca-Cola sales averaged 9 drinks a day at the local Atlanta, Georgia, soda fountain. Asa G. Candler, believing the drink had potential, paid \$2300 for sole ownership of it in 1891. By the time the Candler interests were sold in 1919, Coca-Cola had grown so much that the new buyers had to pay \$25 million.



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